



Daily Report

East Europe

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European Democratic Union Meets in Budapest

Antall Addresses Conference

LD0209140593 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1000 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] [Announcer] At today's conference of the European Democratic Union [EDU], Prime Minister Jozsef Antall and Laszlo Surjan, the chairman of the Christian Democratic Party, delivered speeches. Laszlo Surjan said that Hungary did not wish to change its borders. Jozsef Antall said that the Central European countries had to resolve their problems on their own, but the help of the West and the extension of NATO is also needed. This has been accepted by the reform forces in Russia as well. Istvan Kulcsar reports.

[Kulcsar] Following the opening speech by Alois Mock, the EDU chairman and Austrian foreign minister, Prime Minister Jozsef Antall delivered a speech at the conference of the leaders of European conservative and Christian Democratic parties that opened in Budapest today.

The prime minister said that the issue of security was the first and foremost problem to be resolved. The only viable way to achieve this aim is to accelerate the process of European integration, and to resolve the already manifest crises and prevent the ones under the surface. We would like to emphasize, the prime minister added, that in diplomacy and foreign policy, the principle of prevention is as much important as in medicine. The worst possible thing is a foreign policy that is just registering and following events.

We are aware of the fact that the internal problems of the Central European countries have to be resolved by themselves, but support is needed to do so. First of all, the extension of the EC in three stages has to be promoted, which implies that first the EFTA [European Free Trade Area] countries, then the Visegrad group, and finally the rest of the European countries would be integrated.

It is our common interest, Jozsef Antall went on to say, that the South Slav crisis be settled as soon as possible, and similar conflicts should not break out in other areas of Europe. The West cannot wish anything else but stable Central European countries in the region, which will provide the region's security in the eastern and southern direction as well. For this purpose, the efforts of the most developed Central European countries for the extension of NATO are quite right. I think that recently, where in Russia the reform forces led by President Yeltsin dominate in Russia's political life, and we trust that they will succeed, now is the time, the chance to do the utmost to work out a schedule for the extension of NATO's borders

in political, then legal, organizational, and finally in military issues. Let us accept Yeltsin's statement, let us accept that correct Russian position, which does not object to the NATO membership of these countries, because on the basis of common sense, it is in the interest of the Russian reform forces that stable countries exist in the middle of Europe, and they should not be attempted to be involved in adventures [as heard], there should be no prospects for temptation in Russia for military or political leaders with restoration efforts, the prime minister said, among other things.

Klaus Rejects 'Little NATO'

LD0209222393 Prague CTK in English 2005 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Budapest, Sept 2 (CTK)—Czech Premier Vaclav Klaus told CTK today that the creation of a little NATO if East European countries fail to be accepted in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation was out of the question.

Speaking after his meeting today with Hungarian Premier Jozsef Antall at the European Democratic Union (EDU) conference taking place in Budapest, Klaus said he fully understood that Hungary emphasises the necessity of creating European security structures as quickly as possible.

Given our geographic position, the instability in the Balkans is more distant from the Czech Republic than from the countries directly bordering the former Yugoslavia. That is why efforts to speed up East European countries' and especially Hungary's joining NATO have appeared, Klaus said. He said that there was no difference in views between himself and Antall as to the two countries' orientation towards Western economic and security structures.

Klaus said that his talks with Antall concerned the two countries' cooperation in the Central European Initiative (CEI), in the Visegrad four regional grouping as well as both countries' integration into the European Community (EC) and other Western political, economic and security structures. Klaus said that the question of the reassessment of the Benes decrees which has been demanded recently was not discussed at the meeting, and that the position of the Czech Government on the issue has not changed. He stressed that for the Czech Republic the problem of the Hungarian minority is, although good, still just history.

Before leaving Budapest for Prague today, Klaus met with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and held informal talks with representatives of Slovakia, Poland, Estonia and other EDU member countries attending the Budapest conference.

Greek Policemen Arrested For Selling Permits to Refugees

AU0309083693 Tirana ATA in English 1208 GMT
2 Sep 93

[Text] Tirana, September 2 (ATA)—GAZETA SHQIPTARE reports that three Greek policemen have been arrested under the charge of having sold residence permits to many Albanian refugees in return of great sums of money. Panajotis and Dhimitri Papas have forced an Albanian woman to sell residence permits to many Albanian citizens who want to legal documents.

According to sources from Athens, actually there is a great number of Albanians travelling throughout Greece without legal documents released by Greek authorities.

Arbnori Reopens Assembly Proceedings, Presents Agenda

AU0309083193 Tirana ATA in English 0835 GMT
2 Sep 93

[Text] Tirana, September 2 (ATA)—The new session of the People's Assembly began on September 1 afternoon with a brief speech held by the chairman of the Presidency, Pjeter Arbnori. Later he presented the working plan for examination and the agenda of the assembly's proceedings for September during which many draft-laws are planned to be examined and approved, such as those on the general part of the Civil Code in the Republic of Albania, degrees in the Armed Forces in the Republic of Albania, the draft-law on the press, etc.

The floor was also taken by the chairmen of the parliamentary groups of the Socialist Party, Namik Dokle, Social Democratic Party, Teodor Laco, independent deputies Perikli Teta and of the Democratic Party, Ali

Spahia. They expressed themselves in favour of a fair political climate in the proceedings of the People's Assembly.

On September 2, the Assembly will continue proceedings in commissions and parliamentary groups to examine the draft laws approved on the agenda.

Former U.S. President Carter Meets Arbnori, Visits Kruje

AU0309083093 Tirana ATA in English 0832 GMT
2 Sep 93

[Text] Tirana, September 2 (ATA)—After meeting with President Berisha, the former American president, Carter, left for a visit to the city of Kruje. In Tirana's boulevard he called at a kiosk where he met with its owner. At the latter's request Mr. Carter named the kiosk after his daughter's name, Amy Carter.

On his way to Kruje, Mr. Carter stopped to see some bunkers, traces of the communist system. President Carter said he had never thought that over 200 thousand bunkers had been built in Albania. He said that despite the poverty the past regime caused to Albania, this country with magnificent beauty can progress and develop.

In Kruje city, Mr. Carter met with the speaker of the Albanian Parliament, Pjeter Arbnori. After the visit to the city's museum, Mr. and Mrs. Carter wrote in the book of impressions: "It is a honour for us to visit this historic center which reflects the courage of the Albanian people."

After the visit to Kruje, Mr. Carter and the persons accompanying him met with directors of Albanian religious institutions and representatives of the Democratic Culture Association.

Former Prime Minister Atanasov Taken to Prison
AU0209195593 Sofia BTA in English 1335 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Sofia, September 2 (BTA)—Early this morning former Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov was taken to prison by a police convoy. He has been sentenced to ten years in prison for embezzlement of large sums. In his capacity as prime minister and in complicity with former Minister of Economy and Planning Stoyan Ovcharov (sentenced to nine years in prison), Georgi Atanasov illegally granted 210,000 leva in aid to 42 persons—children of the so-called “active fighters against fascism and capitalism,” before the Communists came to power.

“What I have seen, witnessed and suffered has convinced me that the Bulgarian Prosecuting Magistracy and Bulgarian justice are headed and controlled by a criminal gang. The arbitrariness which they are seeking to impose on the law enforcement system will weigh on their conscience. And I am surprised that parliament, government and president are keeping silent over this. To keep silent is a crime today.” “The gates of the Sofia prison closed behind Mr. Atanasov at 10:21 today thus restoring, after 47 years, the tradition in Bulgaria of placing former prime ministers behind bars,” National Radio commented. Mr. Krasimir Premyanov M.P. of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) and deputy floor leader of the Parliamentary Group of the BSP and coalition, told a National Radio reporter that yesterday President Zhelev met representatives of the Supreme Council of the BSP. Mr. Premyanov was left with the impression that it was only yesterday that the president heard details on the trial and the sentences on Georgi Atanasov and Stoyan Ovcharov, National Radio reported.

A document belonging to the Sofia Construction Chief Directorate dated 1983 which is unknown to the court may turn the fate of the convicted, 24 CHASA, writes today. The finding of important facts unconsidered by the court may give grounds to the Chief Prosecutor to ask for a resumption of the investigation, jurists told this daily. On September 21 the case will be heard at the Supreme Court which can also decide on the significance of the newly found document for the case, 24 CHASA, adds.

BSP Issues Protest

AU0209195693 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] [Announcer] In accordance with the provisional statute of the Bulgarian National Radio, I am in charge of reading to you the full text of a declaration issued by the Executive Bureau of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] Supreme Council and by the leadership of the Parliamentary Alliance for Social Democracy, which reads as follows:

Today, the verdict against Georgi Atanasov was put into operation despite the risk to which his health and life are being exposed.

This is the first repressive measure resulting from a politically motivated sentence.

Georgi Atanasov and Stoyan Ovcharov are subject to a biased and cruel verdict for actions that are entirely legal.

Georgi Atanasov is imprisoned for his political convictions and for his contribution to the change of regime on 10 November 1989.

This is a new confirmation of the fact that the judicial system in our country is operating under political pressure and has been involved in a series of political repressions. Therefore, our judicial organs have been neglecting the struggle against crime and corruption for the last two years.

Today, the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] is using the services of its commissars in the judicial system in order to cover up for the real criminals and shady businessmen who made their fortune under the SDS government that has since fallen.

The BSP appeals to the democratic public in Bulgaria and abroad and to all honest lawyers to defend justice, civil rights, and humanitarianism.

The BSP insists that President Dr. Zhelev should use his prerogatives of pardon, and expects Minister Kornazhev, chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council, to adopt measures against the arrogant magistrates who have lost all sense of proportion.

Dear listeners, in accordance with the provisional statute of the Bulgarian National Radio, I have briefed you on the full text of the declaration issued by the Executive Bureau of the BSP Supreme Council and by the leadership of the Parliamentary Alliance for Social Democracy.

Berov Explains Reasons for Neev Dismissal

AU0209174793 Sofia BTA in English 1639 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Sofia, September 2 (BTA)—Prime Minister Lyuben Berov will move to parliament to dismiss Mr. Neycho Neev from the deputy prime ministership, the government spokesman announced at the end of today's cabinet meeting. Prime Minister Berov divested Mr. Neev of all his powers as from today until the matter is settled by the National Assembly.

Later in the day, in a statement for the National media Prime Minister Berov described this decision as a routine replacement of cabinet members but did not specify his motives. He only said that Mr. Neev's performance as deputy prime minister and his statement had been twice on the cabinet's agenda.

On August 25, the Government Press Office announced that Mr. Neev had met with officials of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). The Government Press Office said that the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had not been informed in advance of that meeting.

On August 26, the President of the Podkrepa Labor Confederation Konstantin Trenchev insisted that the prime minister divest Mr. Neev of his powers. In his open letter to Prof. Berov, Dr. Trenchev recalled facts from what he described as Mr. Neev's "scandalous political practices." Mr. Neev then said that he would be available for answering any questions this week.

Deputy Minister Ikonov Discusses Balkan Tour

AU0309082093 Sofia BTA in English 1945 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Sofia, September 2 (BTA)—At a special press conference today Deputy Foreign Minister Dimitur Ikonov said that his recent tour of Zagreb, Ljubljana and Belgrade was motivated by Bulgaria's great alarm and concern over the developments in Bosnia-Herzegovina - "A problem, which though not in Bulgaria's immediate vicinity has an indirect and may have a direct relation to Bulgaria's national security." Mr. Ikonov said that the tour was at the initiative of the Bulgarian side.

Mr. Ikonov said that Zagreb highly appreciates Bulgaria's stand on the Yugoslav crisis and on the events in Bosnia-Herzegovina in particular.

The Croatian side expressed a wish for closer cooperation with Bulgaria based on the traditions and roots of bilateral cooperation which should not take place to the detriment of third countries. It was agreed that it is necessary to maintain regular contacts between the foreign ministries of the two countries. According to Mr. Ikonov, this is directly related to the need to send a Bulgarian ambassador to Zagreb

in response to a question, Mr. Ikonov said that the talks in Zagreb did not discuss the possibility of a meeting between the presidents of the two countries.

During Mr. Ikonov's visit to Slovenia, the two sides agreed that it is necessary to activate and promote bilateral contacts to a higher level. "I believe we may expect the opening of a Bulgarian embassy in Ljubljana soon," Mr. Ikonov added.

Mr. Ikonov described his talks in Belgrade as straightforward. We heard the views of the leadership of the Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs on the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina which we regard as objective, Mr. Ikonov said. The Bulgarian stand was received with understanding and it was concluded that it corresponds to the realities and Bulgaria's good intentions. Some basic issues which may emerge on certain occasions in Bulgarian-Yugoslav relations were also discussed, Mr.

Ikonov said, adding that prominence was given to the situation of the Bulgarian national minority in Serbia.

The two sides also discussed the attitude of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the Republic of Macedonia. The Bulgarian side expressed the stand that Bulgaria would welcome a recognition of the existence of the Republic of Macedonia as a reality by the leadership in Belgrade and would regard this as an expression of confidence in Bulgaria, as a gesture which would dispel the suspicions aroused among the Bulgarian public and in the minds of foreign political figures, Mr. Ikonov said. The Yugoslav side at the talks assured Mr. Ikonov that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has no hostile intentions towards Macedonia and does not intend to cast doubt over peace there with its policy.

As regards the sanctions, the Bulgarian side stated that Bulgaria does not intend to violate its duties as a worthy member of the international community, despite the heavy losses it is suffering.

Asked whether he had negotiated a meeting between the prime ministers of Bulgaria and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in Belgrade, Mr. Ikonov said that interest in such a meeting was shown by the federal leadership and it was pointed out that the FRY would count on such a meeting but no dates or possible topics to be discussed at such a meeting were specified. Mr. Ikonov said that the stand set forth by him was that Bulgaria was open for political contacts, most of all with its neighbours. But I believe that the evaluations and analyses of this tour may also be regarded as a basis for taking respective decisions, the deputy foreign minister added.

Mr. Ikonov said that the press would be informed of the talks of leaders of the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry with representatives of other countries of the region—Albania, Greece and Macedonia.

Russian Foreign Intelligence Chief Primakov Arrives

AU0309114593 Sofia BTA in English 1105 GMT 3 Sep 93

[Text] Sofia, September 3 (BTA)—Academician Yevgeniy Primakov, director of Russia's External Intelligence Service, arrived in Sofia this morning. Mr. Aleksandr Avdeyev, ambassador of Russia to Bulgaria, told BTA that the visit is paid at the invitation of Bulgaria and more specifically of General Brigo Asparukhov, director of the National Intelligence Service. "The three-day visit is unofficial," Ambassador Avdeyev specified.

He believes that key areas of cooperation will be on Academician Primakov's agenda. "A lot of risks are emerging in the world for each country in particular and for the world community at large. I have in mind international terrorism and the growth of the drugs and

arms trade, which destabilize the international situation and jeopardize the political interests of the two countries," Mr. Avdeyev said.

At Sofia Airport, Academician Primakov was welcomed by General Asparukhov and Interior Minister Viktor Mikhaylov.

Kozloduy Reactor Links Up to National Grid

AU0209140893 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1300 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] We have received a report from the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Station that yesterday evening its No. 4 Generating Unit was connected to the national power grid, after three months of planned maintenance work. During this maintenance work, a program was completed to update the unit's safety features, including strengthening the unit to withstand earthquakes, installing an early-warning system for leak detection, improvements in monitoring the neutron flow, emergency protection for the reactor, installing new fire alarm and fire extinguishing systems, and improving the categories 1 and 2 failsafe electrical supply systems.

At the moment the No. 4 Unit is operating with an output of 140 megawatts, and this is gradually being increased.

Maintenance work continues on units 1 and 6.

Queen 'Moved' by 'Affection' Shown During Visit

AU0309104693 Sofia BTA in English 2002 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Sofia, September 2 (BTA)—The Queen Mother Ioanna, who has been living in exile abroad for 47 years, and

her daughter, the Princess Marie-Louise, are moved by the affection with which they were welcomed in Bulgaria. Queen Ioanna and Princess Marie-Louise, accompanied by the princess's husband, Mr. Bronislaw Hrobok, arrived eight days ago on a private visit to Bulgaria for the memorial service held at Rila Monastery to mark the 50th anniversary of the death of the queen's husband and the princess' father, King Boris III (1918-1943).

Queen Ioanna was moved by the fact that people have not forgotten her and show her affection wherever she goes. "This is balm to her spirit," Princess Marie-Louise said today in a brief interview on Bulgarian National Radio. This is the first time that the queen mother has visited Bulgaria after 1946, when the country was proclaimed a republic and the royal family was forced to leave.

"On behalf of my mother I would like to say that she thanks everybody: the authorities for the support and the assistance they provided for her trip, all Bulgarians who came to greet her, and for the gifts and the flowers," the princess said.

Queen Mother Ioanna and Princess Marie-Louise visited a number of Bulgarian towns. Queen Ioanna wanted to see more towns and places. "At age 85 it is not easy. I don't know how my mother coped. It was a sort of marathon," Princess Marie-Louise said.

"I would very much like to come to visit here, to bring my children," said Princess Marie-Louise, asked whether she was planning to visit Bulgaria again soon. She first came back to Bulgaria two years ago. The princess hopes to come to Bulgaria again next year.

"Long live Bulgaria," said Princess Marie-Louise, winding up her interview.

Coalition Responds to ODS Announcement*AU0209055293 Prague CTK in English 2033 GMT
29 Aug 93*

[Text] Prague, August 29 (CTK)—Christian Democratic Union- Czechoslovak People's Party (KDU-CSL) spokesman Jaroslav Orel said today that the Civic Democratic Party's (ODS) should indeed behave like a party which gained 30 percent of the vote in the last elections, when negotiating with its coalition partners.

On many occasions, which for the sake of the coalition's good reputation we have not made public, we have witnessed the ODS behaving as if it had won 90 percent of the vote in the elections, Orel told CTK.

Orel's comment referred to Friday's [27 August] announcement that the ODS Executive Council believed the party should use the full weight of its 30 percent when negotiating with coalition parties who had gained only four or five percent of the vote.

ODS spokeswoman Jana Petrova said that it was impossible that ODS, which was elected by the greatest number of Czechs, should be forced to take part in decision making as merely one of four coalition parties.

She said that bilateral talks were being prepared with each of the coalition parties. The first was to be with the Christian Democratic Party (KDS).

KDS Chairman Vaclav Benda told CTK that the first he had heard about the bilateral talks was from the press. He said it would have been better if the suggestion had been put to the KDS through coalition channels.

We welcome and support—and have often initiated—bilateral talks as a way of improving the level of communication within the coalition, he said.

He added that the number of ODS members in the government compared to those of other coalition parties was a fairly clear expression of ODS' victory in the general elections.

Deputy Chairman of the Civic Democratic Alliance (ODA) Daniel Kroupa said of the ODS spokeswoman's speech: I find it a little difficult to understand, and shall not comment on it further.

Last Federal Banknotes Invalid After 31 Aug*AU0209164093 Prague CTK in English 1424 GMT
30 Aug 93*

[Text] Prague, August 30 (CTK)—The remaining banknotes of the former Czechoslovak Federation which are still in circulation in the Czech Republic become invalid on Tuesday 31 August.

Commercial enterprises will, however, still be able to deposit the stamped 100, 500 and 1,000 crown notes at all branches of the Czech Post Office, Komerční Banka

(Commercial Bank) and Ceska Sporitelna (Czech Savings Bank)—the institutions with the largest network of branches—until 15 September.

The notes can also be exchanged for new notes at all banks with counter services until 31 May next year.

August 31 is also the last date that one halér (heller) and five heller coins can be exchanged.

Federal one crown coins are valid until 30 September, and are exchangeable till 31 January next year.

Federal two and five crown coins cease to be legal tender on the last day of November, and are exchangeable till 31 March next year. 30 November is also the deadline for the exchange of federal ten, twenty, and fifty heller coins, ten crown coins and notes, and twenty and fifty crown notes, which became invalid on 31 July.

Havel To Disclose Data on Personal Property Holding*AU0209170693 Prague CTK in English 1111 GMT
1 Sep 93*

[Text] Prague, Sept 1 (CTK)—Czech President Vaclav Havel has decided to make public information about his personal property interests.

In an interview with the daily MLADA FRONTA DNES, Havel says he believes the public has a right to know about the property holdings of politicians: In several democratic countries it is their obligation to make public everything about their property interests, including their tax returns. I think it wouldn't hurt if something similar became normal for us.

The president does not deny that he decided to make his own financial information public to set an example for other politicians, but adds that his main reason was simply to provide accurate information to those who have an interest in knowing about Havel's property dealings as well as those with false or confused ideas about them.

He also dismissed allegations that the real reason for his opposition to the communist regime was to get his family property returned: I honestly never thought about the return of our businesses, nor did it ever occur to me that they could be returned, and even if it had occurred to me, I would have had no idea what to do with them. But in the end it happened. This paradox will follow me my entire life.

Havel and his brother Ivan own jointly an apartment building on Rasinovo Nabrezi and a villa in Barrandov which currently serves as the Argentinian ambassador's residence, as well several parcels of land and collections of rare art which they inherited from their grandfather. The president and his sister-in-law also own restaurant operations in Barrandov and the Lucerna building on

Wenceslas Square. Havel's uncle and grandfather formerly owned film studio Barrandov, which they founded, but were forced to sell it off by the Nazis before World War Two.

Last month, President Havel and his wife Olga bought a villa in Prague 6, near the castle. He admits that the villa was expensive, but says it was not as expensive as reported in the media. Two-thirds of the money came from saved earnings from his literary works, nearly one-third he borrowed, and the rest came from profits from the Lucerna and Barrandov operations. He says he and Olga bought the villa because their Rasínovo apartment was too small for living and for all the work they carry out from home.

Asked if he was not a little surprised by having so much money, Havel replies: I have been both poor and rich many times in my life. I have never despaired when I was poor nor been narcotized by riches. I take it all, so to speak, sportingly.

Havel Insists Court Sentenced Tiso, Not Czech Nation

AU0109204593 Prague CTK in English 1011 GMT
28 Aug 93

[Text] Bratislava, August 28 (CTK)—The president of the Slovak state [during World War II], Jozef Tiso, was sentenced to death by a Czechoslovak court, not by the Czech president or the Czech nation, Czech President Vaclav Havel said last night, reacting to a statement by Kosice, east Slovakia, Bishop Alojz Tkac.

Tkac had recently said that the Czech nation should feel guilty for Tiso's execution.

Havel, who arrived in Bratislava for a short unofficial visit, told journalists that all the then Czechoslovak President Edvard Benes did was to not sign Tiso's request for pardon.

Havel said that all his life he has been opposed to the death penalty, and therefore he condemned Tiso's execution as well. However, he said he respected the court's statement that Tiso was a war criminal deserving severe punishment.

Josef Tiso was president of the Slovak state from 1939 to 1945. In 1947 he was sentenced to death by the national court in Bratislava, and executed.

Referring to a recent report by the Czech left-leaning daily RUDE PRAVO, which said the then Czechoslovak Federal Minister Jan Langos had ordered the arrest of Chairman of the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (HZDS) Vladimir Meciar in early 1992, Havel said he had never heard of any alleged preparations to arrest Meciar, and he considered it unlikely.

LSNS Blasts Havel, Supports ODS on Church Restitution

AU0209124093 Prague CTK in English 1357 GMT
31 Aug 93

[Text] Prague, August 31 (CTK)—The chairman of the Liberal National Social Party (LSNS) today said his party supported the position of the Civic Democratic Party (ODS) on church restitution and considered President Vaclav Havel's recent statements in the French press a slur on the Czech nation.

Pavel Hirs said at a press conference today that the LSNS agreed with the ODS that so-called economic property, including forests and agricultural land, should not be returned to church ownership. The church should not engage in business activities, he said, and important cultural monuments should remain in state hands.

The church's moral claim to this property is entirely problematic, he said, because the church obtained this property by not entirely appropriate methods, for example through the confiscation of property after the Battle of White Mountain in 1620.

Hirs also blasted Havel's statement to the French weekly GLOBE HEBDO that during World War II there were a thousand times more collaborators with the Nazis than resisters: For the average Czech the resisters were individuals who uncomfortably endangered their safety. The same thing happened under communism. Many people disliked the system but considered the dissidents a nuisance.

Hirs said that the facts of history testified to the opposite. He pointed out that over 200,000 Czechs ended up in Nazi concentration camps and additional tens of thousands were executed in retaliation to the assassination of Heydrich (head of the Nazi Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia—ed.). Such statements by the president of the republic could only lead to a decline in public confidence in Havel, he added.

The official sources say that 230,000 Czechoslovak citizens died in Nazi death camps and 1,585 were executed under martial law between 27 May and 3 July 1942.

Committee Says Ministry Not Involved in Scandals

AU0209124193 Prague CTK in English 2136 GMT
1 Sep 93

[Text] Prague, September 1 (CTK)—The parliament's Committee met behind closed doors today to discuss developments in an alcohol and tax-fraud scandal that is being investigated by authorities.

A ruling by the Defense and Security Committee said that nothing was revealed during the hearing that would indicate that any public officials interfered in the police investigation of the affair, in which a former judge in Hradec Kralove, eastern Bohemia, was accused of accepting bribes to falsify documents for the men involved in alcohol-tax evasion.

The committee's ruling goes on to state that what turned this criminal case into a seemingly serious affair was the fact that the authorities involved did not adequately follow rules dividing authority for the investigation between them. It states that it is imperative that the applicable laws be followed precisely during any investigation.

A second ruling says that the committee is disturbed by the behavior of some representatives of the interior ministry present at the hearing...Underrating the committee's importance [as received].

The committee's chairman, Vladimir Suman, explained that its ruling on the matter was submitted to the deputy interior minister and all police bodies involved in the investigation.

HSDMS Gives Up Idea of Referendum on Status of Moravia

*AU0209124593 Prague CTK in English 1917 GMT
30 Aug 93*

[Text] Brno, South Moravia, August 30 (CTK)—The Self-Governing Democracy Movement for Moravia and Silesia (HSDMS) wants the politically dubious referendum on the administrative status of Moravia and Silesia to be replaced by a different form of public opinion research conducted by an independent institute, Jan Krycer, the HSDMS chairman, declared today.

The HSDMS announced their intention to hold the referendum in the Czech Republic on August 13.

The HSDMS has also set up a bank account for contributions from political parties, which would be used for organizing and conducting the poll. Krycer said he was hoping for financial support from abroad.

The HSDMS is waiting for a response from the Liberal Social Union (LSU), the Liberal National Social Party (LSNS), and the Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD). The Moravian National Party has allegedly refused to contribute. The HSDMS is expecting no support from the Republican Party, with which it does not have official relations.

Border Talks With German Interior Minister Stall

*AU0209134893 Prague CTK in English 2046 GMT
1 Sep 93*

[Text] Prague, September 1 (CTK)—In Bonn today, Czech Interior Minister Jan Ruml and his German counterpart Manfred Kanther failed to negotiate a readmission agreement on the handing over of illegal immigrants.

The point of contention still remains the period inside which German authorities can return immigrants. The Czech Republic insists that this period should start on the day the immigrant crosses the border, while Germany says it should start when the immigrant is discovered on German soil, Ruml told journalists on his return to Prague.

He said that the Germans had undertaken to draw up a system of guarantees which would support the position they had been taking. These would consist of the Czech Republic being allowed to monitor the actions of the German authorities, and the establishment of precise protocols for the investigation of illegal immigrants. Germany is putting this forward on its own initiative, and we have to judge whether it is satisfactory for us or not, he said.

During the negotiations in Bonn, Germany did not accept a Czech proposal that the period be extended to one year, if it were to start from the time of illegal entry.

Ruml said the lack of a treaty did not matter so much to the Czech Republic from the point of view of everyday practicalities, but that from the point of view of membership of the European Community it was bringing and would bring certain problems. It is reasonable to expect that Western Europe will feel a certain displeasure that the treaty has not been concluded, whether it is Germany's fault or ours, he said.

What had come of the visit was that nothing stood in the way of treaties concerning minor border contact being concluded. The problem of what language the signs for border towns should be in would not be part of the treaty, but would be mentioned in accompanying letters from ministers. Ruml added that in the near future a treaty reducing border formalities might be concluded.

Protocol Signed With Russia on Imports, Exports

*AU0309083793 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in
Czech 31 Aug 93 p 14*

[CTK report: "Wood Is Also a Priority in Czech-Russian Trade"]

[Text] Prague—The Czech Republic would like to import 7.0 million tonnes of oil and 6.7 billion cubic meters of gas from Russia this year. This is the result of a protocol signed between the Czech Republic and the Russian Federation on mutual supplies of goods in 1993. It also wants to give priority to importing 100,000 cubic meters of wood and fuel rods for nuclear power plants worth \$40 million. The purchase of 193,000 tonnes of chemical products and spare parts for nuclear power plants worth \$2.0 million are also priority items. The Czech Republic is also interested in spare parts for aircraft worth \$2.0 million, including repairs.

The Russian side is mainly interested in the import of foodstuffs, medicines, chemical products, and raw materials for its electrotechnical industry. According to the protocol, Russia also gives preference to purchasing machinery, equipment, spare parts, and special technology in the Czech Republic.

The selected priority import products are intended to help the enterprises find export priorities. The protocol is valid until 31 December 1993. It was signed by representatives from the two governments on 26 August, but—according to the protocol—it was, in principle, already in effect.

Kovac To Initiate Law on Ethnic Minorities

LD0309081293 Prague CTK in English 0658 GMT
3 Sep 93

[Text] Bratislava, Sept 3 (CTK)—Slovak President Michal Kovac accepted the proposal to initiate an agreement of the parliamentary political parties to draft a bill on ethnic minorities, he said on Slovak TV last night after the talks with representatives of ethnic minorities.

If the agreement is reached, Kovac is ready to initiate a declaration in which the representatives of political parties would commit themselves to abstain from taking any steps which might worsen the situation during the preparation of the law.

On August 31, ethnic Hungarian politicians sent a letter to the Council of Europe (CE) saying that Slovakia was carrying out ethnic minorities policies that are not in accordance with the commitments that were a condition of its admission into the CE.

The authors of the letter mentioned that municipal signs with minority language text were being removed under a government ministry regulation. Also mentioned was the decline in the number of Hungarian teachers due to inadequate provision for their training and a bill specifying the use of Slovak-form surnames.

Also discussed were the decrees of Czechoslovak President Edvard Benes. Under the decrees some 30,000 out of a total half a million Hungarians were deported from Slovakia. All the property and land were confiscated both from the deported and those who were allowed to stay.

As the decrees were passed immediately after the war, the ethnic Hungarian parties demand to go before the February 1948 limit (the Communist seizure of power) which the law set for restitution claims. The ethnic Hungarians had to give up, at least formally, their nationality if they wanted to be protected from the loss of property and some civic rights. After Czechoslovakia's dissolution, the laws based on Benes's decrees were integrated into the legislation of the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Kovac reported that a group of experts to assess the decrees from all possible aspects would be formed.

Meets With Minorities

LD0209142293 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica
Slovensko Network in Slovak 1300 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] At a meeting with representatives of national minorities and ethnic groups in Bratislava today, [Slovak] President Michal Kovac spoke among other things about some specific proposals and demands of individual minorities.

He said that the Hungarian minority representatives have formulated their demands in the most complex and complete way. He touched on the current situation regarding place names, where, in his view, everything is

in accordance with the valid laws of the National Council [of Slovakia], namely with the law on the territorial administrative set-up and the law on official language.

Reacting to the protests by the Hungarian minority representatives against the proposal of the so-called alternative education, which allegedly would threaten the Hungarian minority education system, President Michal Kovac said that the existing rights remain unaffected in that respect, and that the new proposals do not abolish the present system of [Hungarian] minority education.

Domestic Response to Hungarian Parties' Letter to CE

AU0209135093 Prague CTK in English 2023 GMT
1 Sep 93

[Text] Bratislava, September 1 (CTK)—Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (HZDS) Deputy Chairman Roman Zelenay rejected a statement by Hungarian Christian Democratic Movement (MKDH) Chairman Bela Bugar that ethnic Hungarian groups had exhausted all possible legal means to prove the need for bilingual signs.

On Tuesday, four ethnic Hungarian minority parties sent the Council of Europe (CE) a letter pointing to Slovakia's removal of road signs with place names in Hungarian, the decrease in the number of Hungarian teachers there and the issue of the legality of Hungarian family names.

Zelenay said that it would be possible to discuss the sign law once it was rejected in parliament and once the six-month period the CE has (to review it) expired. He added: I strongly believe that when Mr. Bugar went to complain to Hungarian Prime Minister Jozef Antall about the status of minorities, he upheld the right of the Slovak minority in Hungary to education in the Slovak language.

The chairman of the Slovak National Party (SNS), Ludovit Cernak, stated that the leaders of the ethnic Hungarians are trying to score political points in the situation, which should be solved definitively and specifically. At the same time, he added, the government is not paying enough attention to eliminating tensions in southern Slovakia (where most ethnic Hungarians live).

Jan Carnogursky, chairman of the Christian Democratic Movement (KDH), said that the situation is not clear from a legal perspective, and that the minister of transportation, communication and public works used the opportunity to order the bilingual signs removed. Carnogursky emphasized that this order was very damaging, because foreign opinion would simply not accept any attempts to justify it. He added that such unreasonable moves by the government would only benefit the Hungarian groups by helping them to reach their goals.

A parliamentary member for the Democratic Left Party (SDL), Robert Fico, said we cannot deny the Hungarian parties the right to turn to the Council of Europe, though they have not, in his opinion, yet exhausted all the domestic means at their disposal. The global consequences of the group's initiative for Slovakia, however, are incomparable to the importance of the problems mentioned in their letter.

KSU Calls For Ban on Hungarian Minority Party

AU0209195193 Bratislava SLOVENSKY DENNIK in Slovak 31 Aug 93 p 2

["pet"-signed report: "Ban on Coexistence (?)"]

[Text] Bratislava—At yesterday's news conference of the Christian Social Union [KSU], KSU Deputy Chairman Viliam Oberhauser reported on the Coexistence movement's reply to a letter from the KSU Presidium. In this letter, the KSU demanded that Coexistence furnish evidence of the existence of a list of war criminals including the name of [Slovak writer] J.C. Hronsky and that [Coexistence chairman] Miklos Duray reassess his statement to this effect. The letter also asked whether Duray's statement did not violate the programmatic aims of the Coexistence movement.

Asked by SLOVENSKY DENNIK whether the leaderships of individual parties were accountable to their voters or to the presidiums of other parties, Viliam Oberhauser replied that it was necessary to consider banning the activity of a party that incites hatred among nations living in Slovakia and violates the principles of coexistence.

Speaking about last week's rally of fellow Hungarian citizens in Komarno, KSU Deputy Chairman Bartolomej Kunc said that it took a calm course and that there were no anti-Slovak banners and slogans. He pointed out, however, that the speakers and politicians were railing against the government and the Constitution of the Slovak Republic. Kunc considers it necessary that parliament and government take up this problem.

First Slovak Banknote Put In Circulation

AU0209143893 Prague CTK in English 1526 GMT 30 Aug 93

[Text] Bratislava, August 30 (CTK)—The first Slovak banknote—50 crowns—has been put in circulation today. Its theme is Saint Cyril and Methodius, Slav apostles, and it was worked out by Jozef Bubak.

The banknote measures 68x134 mm, its color is blue. The new banknote will be in circulation along with the former federal 50 crown banknote during two months. The old banknotes can be exchanged until the end of February 1994.

Meciar Commemorates Uprising, Denounces Fascism

AU0209131293 Bratislava REPUBLIKA in Slovak 30 Aug 93 p 2

[Report on Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar's address at a rally in Martin on 29 August, marking the 44th anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising: "Slovak Insurgents Were Not in Yalta and Potsdam"]

[Text] In the Slovak National Uprising [SNP], Slovaks embraced a new arrangement of the world, based on the foundation of antifascism. Missions from the United States, Great Britain, the USSR, and partisans and resistance fighters from more than 30 countries of the world were operating on the insurgents' territory. The SNP must be assessed as a step marking the beginning of the modern history of the Slovak nation, Vladimir Meciar said.

Current criticism by opponents of our nation's heroic feat is based on the premise that the SNP was directed against the state of those days. It needs to be said, frankly, that it was not an act directed against the state but one directed against the system prevailing in that state. If, in searching for an alternative for future development, the SNP opted for coexistence with the Czech nation, this was to be a coexistence based on equality, respect, and mutual advantage. However, post-SNP development was influenced also by geopolitical changes and by the division of Europe into two blocs and two spheres of influence. The insurgents, and Slovaks in general, did not even sit at Yalta and Potsdam. The development was also influenced by the great political struggle of the years 1945 to 1948 and by the inability of the then political representatives of Slovakia, regardless of whether they were from the Democratic Party or from the Communist Party, to defend Slovak statehood, Vladimir Meciar stressed.

Placing the SNP today at variance with the interests of the nation and the state is a historical untruth and fallacy.

The SNP must become a reminder also for the young. We cannot give up the past because tomorrow, out of failure to learn from history, new tragedies would be in store for us. Europe is engaged in the search for a new arrangement and security guarantees. We therefore advocate the holding of an all-European conference on problems of security. The Slovak Republic is exploring its path toward NATO as the sole effectively built structure in Europe. Only one year separates us from the celebration of the 50th SNP anniversary, Vladimir Meciar said. We want to celebrate this jubilee in a dignified fashion, in the presence of the greatest possible number of representatives of states of the anti-Hitler coalition, whom we are inviting to Slovakia.

Foreign Minister Opposes Abrogation of Benes Decrees

*AU0209164293 Prague CTK in English 1259 GMT
30 Aug 93*

[Text] Bonn, August 30 (CTK correspondent)—Slovak Foreign Minister Jozef Moravcik is opposed to the abrogation of the decrees issued after World War Two by the then Czechoslovak President Edvard Benes, but believes that ways should be found to respond to the affected Germans' and Hungarians' claims.

In an interview published by the latest issue of the German weekly *SUDETENDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG*, Moravcik says that when the Council of Europe admitted Slovakia as its member in early July, it recommended to it to rectify the discriminatory measures taken on the basis of collective guilt. But nothing is said about the need to annul the post-war decrees, Moravcik points out.

We consider the Benes's decrees part of the overall post-war developments and therefore it would be difficult to separate one element from the whole, Moravcik says.

It seems to us that it is more logical not to think about the abrogation of Benes's decrees, but to pay heed to the Council of Europe's recommendation and seek appropriate solutions to redress wrongs as seen from the present point of view, Moravcik says.

He believes there is no essential difference between the Slovak and Czech Republics' views on the Benes's decrees.

Under the decrees, some 2.5 million Sudeten Germans and about 32,000 Hungarians were transferred from Czechoslovakia after the war. The Czech side believes that negotiations should be held with representatives of the Sudeten Germans not on a government level, as they demand, but on the level of second- or third-rank politicians.

Moravcik stresses Slovakia's interest in confirming the existing Hungarian-Slovak border to the benefit of a more favorable atmosphere between the two states.

He recalls in this connection the treaties concluded by the former Czechoslovakia and by Poland with Germany in which Bonn confirmed the existing borders.

Official Says NATO Entry Not To Harm Ties With Russia

*AU0209194293 Bratislava REPUBLIKA in Slovak 30
Aug 93 p 2*

[TA SR report: "It Will Not Jeopardize Our Relations With Russia"]

[Text] "It is very difficult, even misleading, to talk about a specific date in connection with the Slovak Republic's

entry into NATO," said Emil Kuchar, director of the Foreign Ministry Analysis and Planning Department.

He said that NATO could currently resolve the issue of expanding the number of its members not by admitting one or two countries, but by admitting the whole of the former East Bloc.

He stated that the Slovak Republic's future membership in NATO should not be perceived as an act directed against anyone. NATO is expanding, the discussions are complex, and no one is interested in isolating the large, important states—Russia and Ukraine and the other countries of the former Soviet Union. "If Slovakia joins NATO, it does not mean our relations with Russia will deteriorate or that our intense political dialogue and extensive economic cooperation will be jeopardized. The Slovak Republic must be a member that clearly defines its security interests as an element of its national interests. It must be a country that represents human values and is prepared to cooperate with every democratic state."

Daily Questions Need for Military Agreement With Russia

*AU0209194393 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in
Slovak 30 Aug 93 p 3*

[Commentary by Blazej Panik: "Slovakia, Russia, and NATO: On One Signal in a Closely Watched Frequency"]

[Text] At a time when, in the wake of the breakup of the bipolar world, the new structure of Europe is just taking shape and when states that have found themselves in a certain geostrategic vacuum as a result are just looking for their new "points of support," signals being sent out in the closely watched frequency of security ties are undoubtedly assuming great significance. From this viewpoint, the Slovak-Russian agreement on military cooperation [signed in Bratislava on 26 August] will be studied in NATO's Brussels headquarters far more closely than the so-called presidential treaty [signed the same day], which is of general political nature and which actually only follows up on the treaty from last year (signed by Vaclav Havel on behalf of the then CSFR).

Even though it is evident that, in view of the equipment of our Army, we cannot do without some cooperation with Russia (the same as other former Warsaw Pact member states), for at the least the next few years, it remains debatable, in view of the aforementioned context, whether it was necessary to declare this cooperation in a special agreement between the ministries of defense. When we consider that last Monday [23 August], on his way home from Moscow, Prime Minister Meciar mentioned that only "working contacts in the field of repairs and equipment maintenance" would be established in this sphere, the signing on Thursday of a far more broadly conceived agreement must have come as a surprise to many. The Russian president only amplified

this surprise when [during his news conference in Bratislava on 26 August] he described Article 7 ("The contracting parties will cooperate in the interest of deepening trust and cooperation and, to these ends, they will promote mutually advantageous cooperation and contacts in the military sphere"), which is developed further in the agreement signed by [defense ministers] Imrich Andrejcek and Pavel Grachev, as "perhaps the most important" article of the treaty. Everything therefore suggests that the Slovak Government is in store for one more (old) new problem: once again, it will have to dispel doubts—in relation to the domestic opposition but, above all, in relation to the West—about our orientation towards NATO.

It is no secret to the well-informed that Moscow (including Yeltsin's Moscow) only with great difficulty puts up with the Central European states' efforts at rapprochement with NATO, even though this is never discussed officially. It is understood in Russia that returning to their former positions in this region, in the political sense, is unrealistic today (Boris Yeltsin himself could scarcely be suspected of attempting that). On the other hand, objective processes, particularly the difficulties experienced by the countries of the former East Bloc with the transformation of their economies, suggest that old-new opportunities [for cooperation with Russia] are more and more evidently beginning to open up in the economic sphere, and it would be a mistake not to seize them. It is only the security ties of the former allies that remain a problematic and sensitive issue in Moscow, which even President Yeltsin and his team cannot afford to ignore, in view of the strong domestic opposition represented by the "old structures," all the more so as Russia's future geostrategic policy still is not clear and because some sort of a jealousy of NATO still prevails there.

This may explain why Brussels is so extremely cautious when it comes to promises of early [NATO] membership for the countries of the Visegrad four. Moscow naturally counts on this in its own calculations. The Bratislava agreement of Thursday on military cooperation is, therefore, its success. Whether it is a success also from the viewpoint of the interests of Slovakia is, at this time, questionable.

Trade Increases With Czech Republic

*LD0209224293 Prague CTK in English 2045 GMT
2 Sep 93*

[Text] Bratislava, Sept 2 (CTK)—Total foreign trade turnover from March to May this year doubled in both the Czech and Slovak Republics in comparison to the first three months of this year, announced the general director of the Customs Union's Permanent Secretariat, Rudolf Besik, today.

Slovak statistics show a leap from the 54.411 billion Slovak crown (sok) trade turnover at the end of March 1993 to 115.128 billion sok by the end of May this year. Similarly, the Czech Republic's 132.480 billion crowns at the end of March came to 264.481 billion crowns as of May 31. The general director stated it was obvious both states were making efforts to develop successful mutual trade and cooperation.

Trade between the two republics has indeed experienced a certain revival and relative increase. The Czech Republic's share in Slovak trade turnover grew from 36.1 per cent to 39.3 per cent in the above period. Likewise, Slovak goods increased their share from 16.4 per cent to 20 per cent in Czech overall foreign trade. At the same time, exports to countries with advanced economies more than doubled, Besik added.

The Customs Union Council came into being on the basis of governmental agreements between the two republics and requires equal representation. Its chair position rotates between the two republics as well. On August 23, Slovak minister of economy, Jaroslav Kubecka, took over the position as chairman from Czech minister of industry and trade, Vladimir Dlouhy.

U.S. Military Experts To Advise Defense Ministry

*AU0209124493 Prague CTK in English 1938 GMT
30 Aug 93*

[Text] Bratislava, August 30 (CTK)—A four-strong group of U.S. military experts today began to work here in order to help rebuild the structure of the Slovak Army and Ministry of Defense, Slovak Defense Secretary Igor Urban told journalists.

The U.S. experts do not want to press their concepts on the Slovak Army, Urban said, adding that the Slovaks would screen the information for whatever would bring them closer to the military structures of the Western countries.

While the tuition is sponsored by U.S. Government, the experts' expenses will be covered by Slovak Ministry of Defense, Urban said.

Slovak Army Chief General Julius Humaj pointed out that the know-how will have to be put to use in restructuring the Slovak Army and making it compatible with the NATO armies.

Colonel Garry Anderson, in charge of the team of U.S. instructors, noted that the experts would strive to enable their Slovak counterparts to enter U.S. military establishments for theoretical and practical training. Already the program is partly operative in that Slovak professionals study at American schools, Urban concluded.

Privatization Minister Views Public Attitudes

AU0209163293 Budapest PESTI HIRLAP in
Hungarian 1 Sep 93 p 11

[Interview with Privatization Minister Tamas Szabo by Domokos Varga; place and date not given: "Privatization or Spoiling Our Own Fate—The History of Privatization From a Close Look"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Szabo] According to a survey in 1991, half of the population thought that privatization was useful rather than harmful, and 13 percent held the opposite view. Our recent survey shows that only 34 percent see privatization as useful and as many as 24 percent consider it harmful. The former group mainly consists of people with higher education and from Budapest, while mostly people with little education can be found in the latter group. Certain cynical politicians are aiming precisely at this latter group, and those who want to change the world refer to them. It is obvious that those who stand to gain the least direct benefit from privatization are turning and can be made to turn against it. [passage omitted]

[Varga] What could be the reason why few are willing to realize that the private economy has a bigger role in the national economy than the state sector?

[Szabo] The level of rejection can sometimes be quite surprising. For example, some 80 percent of state enterprise employees do not think that their workplace needs to be privatized. To quote another typical figure: Only 52 percent of people think that privatization is absolutely necessary for changing the regime. In other words, almost half the adult population can imagine a change of regime with all the property remaining under state ownership. [passage omitted]

[Varga] According to economists, the situation will not be significantly better in the coming months or even years, and, therefore, nothing will convince the majority that privatization is good.

[Szabo] As this is something we certainly do not want, all we can do is change ourselves. This has been the hardest thing to get used to, namely that, in addition to having good intentions and acting positively, we also have to make people believe and accept this. Surveys are needed so that we can find out what people actually think and to avoid only answering our own questions. Sooner or later, people will certainly react positively to the honest enquiries, more frequent and detailed information, and the good examples that are publicized. We are competing

with time. The majority of people will have to be convinced before they make up their minds in a detrimental way.

[Varga] Thinking of Szarszo, the patriotic front style meeting, I believe that you might run out of time. Even the intelligentsia does not see or accept everything that you consider logical.

[Szabo] In my view, the section of the intelligentsia that gathered there acted just as usefully as citizens who always talk about the irregularities in privatization. In a democracy, critical and concerned voices always motivate those in leading positions to act even better. This does not mean that those who express concern are always aware of the realities. Just as the socialist type of man could not be dominant in socialism, the market economy cannot be built on humanitarian considerations rather than on the satisfying of self interests. These kinds of ideas were also raised in Szarszo, for example advocating a more just distribution of wealth, just as in socialism. It is also good that they consider the protection of national property important, but it is a warning sign that, compared with 1991, only 36 percent, instead of the previous 57 percent, of people think that foreign capital is beneficial to privatization. In addition, various social groups would strictly limit the amount of it. In other words, while we do not have enough domestic capital for development, they would also reject capital that could come in. No one should have any doubts that, if we again had shortages of goods because of the accelerating deterioration of the economic situation, people who now are falling for socialist and other tempting voices would be cursing the most.

[Varga] Apart from patience and long-term advantages, does privatization give anything else to the masses at large?

[Szabo] I would like to recall that compensation affects 800,000 people. Some 200,000 people will have had their own land returned to them by the end of the year. Marking up the property of agricultural cooperatives affects more than 1 million people with assets of 200,000 forints on average. The sale of the small shops—in the course of pre-privatization—directly affected more than 10,000 people. Even the workers' share program (MRP) is now affecting tens of thousands of people. The small investors' share program is still to come! It is hardly exaggerating to say that privatization has become an everyday topic and the subject of planning in every family, and within a very few years. It would be deceptive to achieve or promise any more than this. [passage omitted]

NATO Membership To Be Discussed at Jan Summit
LD0209223093 Warsaw PAP in English 2021 GMT
 2 Sep 93

[Text] Warsaw, 2 Sep—Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka on Thursday, upon her return from Budapest where she had attended the 16th Conference of the European Democratic Union [EDU], said that the issue of the Polish membership of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization would be discussed during the January summit of the alliance.

Asked whether she had gained Germany's support for the Polish membership of NATO, Ms. Suchocka said that Chancellor Helmut Kohl had clearly stated he could not imagine the European Community without Poland.

The prime minister also said she had touched upon the problem of accessibility of Polish goods to Western markets during all her talks held in the Hungarian capital with Western leaders.

The Conference of the European Democratic Union was devoted to European integration, ways of consolidating new democracies and security in Europe, as well as environmental protection in Eastern Europe.

Earlier on Thursday before an official opening of the EDU conference, Ms. Suchocka met with Kohl. The two politicians talked about Polish internal problems and international affairs, particularly about opening of the markets of the European Community to Polish products, and about the NATO summit meeting in January.

Kohl said that Germany wants Poland to continue its reforms, and when it fulfills all conditions—to become a member of the European Community. "Poland has been an important part of the whole Europe and that is why it is normal for it to follow the road towards the community," said Kohl during the meeting.

The German chancellor stressed that the NATO summit meeting is expected to raise the question of interests and wishes of some countries, including Poland, concerning the NATO guarantee of security. He expressed satisfaction over the recent statement of Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who said that Polish NATO membership does not contradict Russia's interests.

Ending her visit in Hungary, Hanna Suchocka met with Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall and discussed the possibility of joining the European Community and NATO by the countries of the Visegrad group (Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and the Czech Republic).

Russian Intelligence Head Meets Polish Counterparts
LD0209231493 Warsaw PAP in English 2125 GMT
 2 Sep 93

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 2—Director of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service Yevgeniy Primakov is paying a

working visit to Poland since August 31, spokesman for State Protection Office (UOP) Irena Popoff announced on Thursday evening.

Popoff said that the goal of the visit, to end on Friday, "is to discuss issues of joint interest of the Russian intelligence and Polish special services."

During the visit, Primakov held talks with Minister of Internal Affairs Andrzej Milczanowski and with UOP's top officials.

Primakov was also received by President Lech Walesa and Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka.

German Minority Wants New Minority Law
WS0209144193 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish
 1 Sep 93 p 2

[Article by Zbigniew Lentowicz: "Germans From Olsztyn and Silesia Field 40 Parliamentary Candidates; Kroll: I Can See Shortcomings of Treaties"]

[Text] According to Henryk Kroll, chairman of the German Social-Cultural Society in the Opole Silesia, and Professor Gerhard Bartodziej, who is running in the Senate elections as a candidate from Opole, Polish-German treaties regulating the affairs of minorities do not solve all the problems of their national group.

"We appreciate and highly value its provisions; however, also as a result of those regulations, the attitude toward our affairs has become ancient. The reality is not ancient at all. European standards in this area have made a considerable step forward," says Bartodziej. Kroll, leader of the German parliamentary circle in the last parliament, stresses that he is satisfied that the deputies of this minority had left parliament without losing face. "We had a pragmatic attitude toward politics. Without being in the coalition, we supported the government; it was a government that supported us."

The former deputy, however, quickly enumerates issues that, according to him, were not settled: It is bad that the treaty did not include a provision stating that serving in the Wehrmacht should be taken into account when granting pensions (the minority leaders estimate that there are as many as 40,000 such combatants); also, aggravating social problems of the very elderly in Silesia are awaiting solutions. German candidates also say that the problem of using the German language in offices or on street signs should be resolved.

The Opole Germans were not able to list any concrete examples of violating minority laws. However, they complained about the unfavorable attitude of both the Polish and German Ministries of Foreign Affairs. They also complained about the fact that even though the well-known "case of monuments" was settled positively, the minority is in constant conflict with local state authorities over many matters.

Therefore, if the several-hundred-thousand-strong electorate does not fail, new German deputies will want to seek allies in the new Sejm (particularly among the members of UD "Democratic Union," KLD "Liberal-Democratic Congress," and "Solidarity"); they will also want to pass a law, awaited "by all Polish minorities," specifying their rights in the Republic of Poland.

There were too many opponents of such a regulation in the previous parliament, especially on the right side; therefore, the chances of it being passed were slim, says Kroll. Professor Bartodziej points out that the new internal law should be based on European norms, especially on those included in the latest, 11th protocol of the Human Rights convention. "The situation of various minorities in Poland is, however, quite different; therefore, it is necessary to adjust the general standards to our internal reality," maintains former senator from the Opole Voivodship.

The Silesian Germans claim that they are following the Polish-Lithuanian negotiations very closely. "We wish the German authorities would take care of us the way the Polish Government is taking care of the Polish minority in Lithuania," admits Kroll.

The German minority, which had seven deputies and one senator in the previous parliament, will be satisfied if it maintains these numbers after the September elections, its leaders say. So far it registered its candidates in seven constituencies: in the Opole region—ten Sejm deputy candidates and two senatorial ones, including Kroll and Bartodziej; six candidates are also running in the Czesochowa Voivodship, three candidates in the Olsztyn Voivodship, seven in the Raciborz-Gliwice region, and four candidates in Katowice. In Katowice Voivodship, eight candidates have been fielded by the German Work Commonwealth "Reconciliation and Future," headed by Dietmar Brehmer. The organization has its origin in the circles of charity organizations. It was fiercely opposed by the Opole Germans in the previous elections. This time, apparently, a truce has been worked out. "There is mutual understanding between us. We differ in views, so we are running separately," explains Gerhard Bartodziej.

PC Leader Indicted for Revealing State Secrets

LD0209152893 Warsaw TVP Television Second Program Network in Polish 1400 2 Sep 93

[Text] The Provincial Prosecutor's Office in Warsaw has submitted to court an act of indictment against Jaroslaw Kaczynski. The leader of the Center Alliance [PC] is being accused of breaching state secrets, vital to state security, by revealing a secret instruction No. 0015/92 issued by the State Protection Office. The offense carries a possible prison sentence of between one to 10 years.

Ministry Announces Independent Katyn Investigation

LD0209210393 Warsaw PAP in English 2015 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 2—In a sharp change of official policy, Justice Minister Jan Piatkowski announced on Thursday that Poland is to open its own "sovereign Polish investigation" of the crimes committed at Katyn and other Soviet prison camps in 1940, when in excess of 15,000 Polish army officers were murdered by the Soviet secret services, the NKVD.

Hitherto, Poland had officially maintained the position that only the Russian Federation, as the legal successor to the Soviet Union, had the sovereign authority to investigate the Katyn murders.

Piatkowski, who is also Polish prosecutor-general, announced that a special team of prosecutors had been set up to continue the investigation of possible survivors from among the Soviet officers personally responsible for the murders. So far, three officers suspected of directly ordering the shootings at the camps have been identified as still alive. Even if those responsible for the orders to kill the Poles are no longer alive, at least those who carried out the orders should be judged and sentenced, Piatkowski said.

The change in policy reflects growing impatience with the slowness of Russian investigations into the murders, which have been in progress for two years. "We cannot wait any longer for the conclusion of investigations by the Russian prosecutors office," Piatkowski commented. "After all, the most interested party in the matter of judging and punishing the perpetrators of these crimes is the Republic of Poland."

The Polish investigation will be completely independent of those being conducted by the Russian side, and the main aim is to press for the extradition to Poland of the three known surviving NKVD officers, and any others subsequently identified. He drew attention to the fact that the Russian authorities had taken no action against those identified, although there was sufficient evidence to warrant criminal investigations.

He also announced that Poland's assistant prosecutor-general Stefan Snieszko would be removed from the Katyn case, since he was too closely identified with the previously-maintained Polish position that only the Russian Federation had the sovereign authority to deal with the Katyn case. This attitude contradicts Polish criminal law, Piatkowski asserted.

Later, Foreign Ministry press spokesman Grzegorz Dziemidowicz said that such a decision on a matter of great weight with foreign policy implications ought to have been cleared first with the Foreign Ministry. However, there had been no such clearance. "The matter is completely unknown to Foreign Minister Skubiszewski, and no-one approached anyone over it," Dziemidowicz commented.

He also dismissed press speculation that the Polish move had been approved by Russian President Boris Yeltsin during his recent visit to Poland. According to Dziemidowicz, Yeltsin said only that any such action "would not go beyond the Polish-Russian declaration on the investigation of the offence."

In Moscow, there was no immediate official reaction from the Russian authorities on Thursday to the Polish decision. Both the information department of the Russian Foreign Ministry, and General Nikolay Anisimov, the military prosecutor heading the Russian investigations into the Katyn crime, declined to comment to the PAP correspondent on the issue.

The name Katyn is used in Poland to refer to the mass shootings at several prison camps in the Smolensk region of Polish army officers, captured in September 1939 following the Soviet invasion of eastern Poland, by NKVD officers. One of the graves, at Katyn, was uncovered by the Germans in 1943, although others in the area were only exhumed in recent years. It is officially estimated that around 15,000 officers were murdered at the various locations, although documents from the most secret Soviet archives suggest that there may be a further 5-6,000 Polish officers whose remains have not been accounted for.

Until 1989, Poland's communist rulers backed the official Soviet version that the officers had been murdered by the Nazis, despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary, including the testimony of the handful of survivors.

Suchocka Comments

LD0209220693 Warsaw Third Program Radio Network in Polish 2100 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Excerpts] Justice Minister Jan Piatkowski announced that he will bring to justice the perpetrators of the Katyn crime. Piatkowski announced that an independent inquiry on this matter has started. Deputy Prosecutor General Stefan Sniezko who thought that only Russia has the right to investigate has been taken off the case. [passage omitted]

Presidential Spokesman Andrzej Drzycimski commented on Minister Piatkowski's announcement.

[Begin recording] [Drzycimski] In cases such as this, one must try to cooperate and work together to solve such difficult problems and not try to compete. In this case, we will be losing momentum in solving this Katyn problem because, let's say, documents as well as people are not in Poland but in Russia. We will have to cooperate with Russian law enforcement bodies and I do not know if this will help us.

[Unidentified reporter] What does the president intend to do in this matter?

[Drzycimski] This is an internal government decision and the government should speak about it. [end recording]

[Announcer] Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka said on her return from Budapest:

[Begin Suchocka recording] Right now I am not able to (?comment) on the minister's initiative. It may be his initiative, but it certainly is not the one he consulted with me. [end recording]

Decision Called 'Hasty'

LD0309092193 Warsaw Radio Warszawa Network in Polish 0600 GMT 3 Sep 93

[Text] [Announcer] Presidential spokesman Andrzej Drzycimski called the justice minister's decision [on opening an investigation into the Katyn massacre] a hasty one. Drzycimski appeared this morning on Polish Radio First Program.

[Begin Drzycimski recording] I believe that this is a very hasty decision, because only a week ago very good talks with the Russian president ended and we could proceed with all issues we had strived for. Everything is very open without any attempt to humiliate each other. The Russians met us half way on all issues, including the Katyn issue. We agreed that an agreement has to be signed and that the issue must be resolved.

President Boris Yeltsin said during talks with President Walesa that there should be no issue in our relations which could divide. In these circumstances we need to cooperate and come forward towards each other. My feeling is that this has been a strange matter. First, we have no access to archive materials and we depend on the Russian side. I don't know if an atmosphere like this will be advantageous for us. Second, witnesses don't live here in Poland, they live over there. It makes the whole investigation somewhat illusive.

In my view this is not a good thing, but I think that we are going to react to it with composure and return to the matter after some time. It is my opinion that mutual cooperation would yield better results than attempts to make unilateral decisions. [end recording]

Families Disprove of Decision

LD0309102193 Warsaw PAP in English 0952 GMT 3 Sep 93

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 3—The Federation of the Katyn Families do not agree with the decision of the justice minister to launch an independent Polish investigation into crimes committed at Katyn, Smolensk region, by NKVD Soviet security police on 15,000 Polish officers in 1940.

"Not for the first time the Katyn crimes have become a card played by a politician, and this time it was included by Justice Minister Jan Piatkowski in his electoral campaign. The press conference of the minister who runs for parliament, took place two weeks before the elections," reads the statement of the federation.

The federation groups members of families of officers imprisoned and killed by the Soviet security police during World War 2.

UDMR Decides To Pull Delegates From Minority Council

AU0209172093 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 2 Sep 93 p 1

[Report by Virgil Lazar: "Terming It a Sterile Club, UDMR Has Pulled Out of the Consultative Council for Ethnic Minorities"]

[Text] During a meeting held in the evening of 31 August in Cluj, the Executive Presidium of UDMR [Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania] decided to pull its delegates out of the Consultative Council for Ethnic Minorities. The decision is effective beginning the same day.

We turned to Csaba Takacs, executive president of UDMR, who made the following statement: "The meeting of the UDMR Executive Presidium discussed Decision Number 10, regarding UDMR's participation in the Consultative Council for Ethnic Minorities, which had been adopted on 20 June 1993, during the convention of UDMR delegates. That decision stipulates that if the minority council, through its activity and decisions, does not manage to implement the agreed things [by 31 August], in the form of government decisions or other juridically compulsory regulations, UDMR is to pull its representatives out of the council. I think it is well known that the minority council, in cooperation with the UDMR delegation, has been quite active, a number of substantial proposals have been worked out and forwarded to the government. However, as of 31 August none of those proposals have been implemented in the form of laws or government decisions which would have changed the purely declarative nature of the proposals to grant more rights to the ethnic minorities. Whenever they are referring to minority rights they always mention the fact that they are based on our constitution. However, when it comes to putting those rights into practice, they invoke other articles of the same constitution which forbid the government to take the decisions it originally wanted to.

"UDMR does not wish, under any circumstances, to be a member of a body in which they are merely talking about our rights, or a member of a commission which they officially present as an institution that solves the problems of ethnic minorities, whereas in actual fact it is unable to influence the solution of their needs in any way.

"As long as the current state power does not clearly demonstrate its will really to implement the proposals suggested by the minority council, the latter body continues to be a sterile club."

Mr. Csaba Takacs concluded his statement by adding that UDMR continues to be receptive to dialogue with the government and other state bodies on the issues of safeguarding already granted ethnic minority rights and on gaining new rights and laws protecting ethnic minorities.

UDMR Objections To Be Submitted To Council of Europe

AU0209174593 Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 2 Sep 93 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed article: "The Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania Wants Romania's Good, But It Stirs Further Trouble"]

[Excerpts] Today, the proceedings of the Legal Commission of the Council of Europe begin in Strasbourg. The agenda includes the presentation of the Janson Report on Romania's admission to the Council of Europe. It seems that there will be some talk about minority rights. During the recent visit to Romania by Mrs. Catherine Lalumiere [general secretary of the Council of Europe], Mr. Bela Marko, the president of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania [UDMR], handed her a memorandum on the situation of minorities, primarily the Hungarian one. Another letter, with pretty much the same contents, also signed by the UDMR president, will be submitted today to the Legal Commission by Senator Gyorgy Frunda [UDMR senator, Mures County], a member of that commission.

The memorandum's preamble emphasizes the need for changes in Romania's legal system. The UDMR considers that "basically, it [Romania] does not fulfill the requirements for admittance to the Council." [passage omitted]

We asked Mr. Frunda to tell us what his attitude will be, in his capacity as a member of the Romanian delegation and the UDMR representative, regarding our admittance to the Council of Europe. "The final conclusion of both documents is that the UDMR is aware of the importance of Romania's admittance to the Council of Europe. At the same time, we consider it necessary that all problems that have been raised by us, over quite some time, should be resolved. We will demand that, in the case of Romania's admittance, one should implement the Vallone Procedures, which presuppose a six-month period of Council of Europe supervision, to see to what extent the promises made are being observed."

PRM Leader Recruiting for Paramilitary Guard

AU0309104493 Bucharest EVENIMENTUL ZILEI in Romanian 31 Aug 93 p 3

[Article by Radu Tudor: "Corneliu Vadim Tudor Sets Up His Own Army With the Future Public Guards"]

[Text] The youth organization of the Greater Romania Party [PRM] has sent all its county branches a request to recruit "young members or sympathizers of the PRM" in order to enroll them in the Public Guard.

The request, which is signed by the head of the Department of Social Affairs and president of the Steering Committee of the Youth Organization of the Greater Romania Party, says that talks have been held with those

responsible for implementing this law. The law in question is the Law Regarding the Establishment of Guard and Order Units (Public Guard). Those authorized to implement this law are the representatives of the Interior Ministry.

Condemned by the PRM senator and president, President Iliescu can now see how before his very eyes the Greater Romania Party is setting up "patriotic guards" for which Corneliu Vadim Tudor has repeatedly called. These real paramilitary groups, "Young PRM Members and Sympathizers" will respond promptly at all times to the bilious reactions of the party president, even if they are directed against political rivals. The more so, since this party, that is, the PRM, is known for its violent, extremist, and intolerant attitude. The xenophobic and aggressive character of this party is instilled in those "Public Guards" as political beliefs and they could create a disastrous situation.

Here is the request sent to all county branches of the Greater Romania Party:

To the PRM Galati Branch,

Mr. President,

Romania's Parliament has voted and endorsed a Law on the establishment of the Guard and Order (Public Guard) Units.

We know that in your county young people are also facing the acute problem of unemployment. In this respect, following talks with factors representing those who responsible for implementing this law, we communicate to you the following:

Young members or sympathizers of the RMP who have no job or who work under difficult conditions and are poorly paid can be employed in these units, which will be established also in your county.

Requirements:

For young men:

1. Completed military service.
2. Age limit: 35 years.
3. Education: middle school (minimum 10 grades).
4. Height: over 1.70 m.
5. No criminal record.
6. Good physical and mental condition.

For young women: jobs are available in the non mobile sector as follows:

- four jobs for middle school graduates (typist, secretary, personnel services).
- two jobs for graduates of specialized courses (accountancy). We note that no accommodation is provided; non-commissioned officers and officers in reserve; approximate monthly net salary 60,000 lei.

Please send a list of young people interested in being employed in these units to the following address before 10 September 1993: 39A Calea Victoriei, 2d floor, Bucharest Sector 1. (Romania Mare Youth Organization); the table should have the following headings:

Number. First and Last Name. Military Rank. Education. Phone.

SRI Admits Tapping Telephone Conversations

AU0309081693 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 31 Aug 93 p 16

[Article by Andrei Badin: "The SRI Has Carried Out Wiretapping Operations"]

[Text] Mr. Vasile Vacaru, head of the parliamentary commission in charge of the Romanian Intelligence Service (SRI), admitted that this service was involved in tapping telephone conversations, and one can talk about "a few hundred such acts." According to Mr. Vacaru, SRI mentioned that this information is included in the report submitted to the parliament regarding the activity that the SRI has carried out. Also according to Mr. Vacaru, SRI claims that these acts of tapping telephone conversations were done in accordance with the provisions of law. "We have to make sure that this was really the case," said the head of the parliamentary commission in charge of the SRI activity. Mr. Vasile Vacaru admitted that the other intelligence services which are operating in Romania are supervised by absolutely nobody. Thus, their activity is known only in the highest spheres of the power.

PDSR Deputy Switches to PUNR in Arranged Move

AU0309092893 Bucharest EVENIMENTUL ZILEI in Romanian 31 Aug 93 p 4

[Article by Simona Popescu and Marcela Feraru: "With the Assent of His Leaders, PDSR Deputy Petre Turlea Moves Over to the PUNR"]

[Text] PDSR [Social Democracy Party of Romania] Deputy Petre Turlea resigned yesterday from the parliamentary group of the ruling party and intends to join the PUNR [Romanian National Unity Party] parliamentary group. Turlea is the fourth deputy to leave his parliamentary group during the current legislation, following Petru Burca (PUNR), Leonida Lari (National Peasant Christian Democratic Party), and Ioan Hristu (Greater Romania Party).

According to authorized sources from the ruling party, the move does not reflect commotion within the PDSR, because it is taking place with the agreement of the party leadership and in order to save the seat of the PUNR vice president, Deputy Ioan Gavra, who is threatened by the growth of the liberal parliamentary group, which at the moment is equal with the PUNR.

Foreign Media Bulletin: Balkan Crisis 3 Sep
WA0309165893

The following is an overview of current FBIS reporting on events in the Balkans. It supplements other FBIS reporting and consists primarily of selected summaries of longer reports. For reference purposes, serial numbers of the longer reports are provided.

SUMMARY

Continued fighting reported throughout Bosnia ... Prozor authorities protest Croatian internment, expulsion of local Muslims... Seselj forms "shadow cabinet."

MILITARY

CONTINUED FIGHTING REPORTED IN BOSNIA: Sarajevo Radio reports Bosnian Croat attacks on Muslim positions in Zavidovici, Bosnian Serb shelling of Doboj, Gradacac, Kladanj. TANJUG claims Muslims

continuing attacks on "all Croatian positions and villages" near Gornji Vakuf in response to joint artillery assault on town by Bosnian Croats, Croatian Army. (AU0309104393, LD0209142393)

HUMANITARIAN

PROZOR AUTHORITIES PROTEST EXPULSIONS (Sarajevo Radio): Prozor authorities issue statement charging Croats with internment of local Muslims in "three concentration camps" between October 1992 and 28 August, when the Croats "expelled" the Muslims into areas under control of Bosnian Army. Statement claims only 300 of the 8,000 Muslims living in the town before the war have not been expelled. (AU0209203693)

POLITICAL

SESELJ TO FORM SHADOW CABINET (TANJUG): Serbian Radical Party leader Seselj announces formation of shadow cabinet to "challenge" the Yugoslav federal and Serbian governments, warns that Radicals have "enough power to topple" both governments. (LD0209203593)

Sarajevo Radio Reports Serbian, Croatian Attacks
AU0309104393

[Editorial Report] Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian at 0800 GMT on 3 September carries several reports on the combat situation in the republic.

According to the studio announcer, "the fronts in Bosnia-Herzegovina have mainly been quiet in the last 24 hours. An increase in hostilities was reported in Maglaj and Gradacac."

Maglaj correspondent Hajrudin Seric reports that "there is no peace on the Maglaj front. As soon as the NATO aircraft overflying this town disappeared, the aggressor army launched an artillery attack on the positions of the members of the 201st (?brigade) and Maglaj suburbs. In the last 24 hours, which were characterized by stepped up attacks last night and this morning, several dozens of mortar bombs of all calibers were fired on our fighters in the Lisnica-Nekolj sector. An antiaircraft gun is (?firing) virtually nonstop." According to Seric, "our lines are firm and stable."

According to a correspondent from Zavidovici, "the Serb aggressor and the extremists from the Croatian Defense Council have not stopped their provocations on the Zavidovici front and the free territory in the past period. The defense lines in Dubravica [words indistinct] have been the target of most attacks carried out with 60-mm and 82-mm mortars."

A Doboj correspondent reports that "despite the fact that the aggressor claims that it wants a (?cease-fire), the civilian population continues to suffer in the Doboj region. In addition to the shortage of food and medicines, the Doboj (?residents) are threatened with infection and epidemics, as well as starvation and exhaustion. The situation in this region is tense, dramatic, and extremely critical. If the roads, which have been blocked for more than three months, are not reopened to normal traffic, about 30,000 refugees will soon be much closer to hell and total catastrophe. The aggressor attacked the Doboj defense lines from Mount Ozren on several occasions during the night."

According to a correspondent from Gradacac, "after a relatively quiet day yesterday, the aggressor started shelling the Avramovina region at about 1900." The attack stopped "around midnight. The rest of the night and the morning are mainly quiet."

Croats, Muslims Battle for Gornji Vakuf

LD0209142393 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1401 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 2 (TANJUG)—Bosnian Croats and Moslems on Thursday [2 September] engaged in heavy fighting near Gornji Vakuf in the central part of war-battered Bosnia-Herzegovina.

A radio station of the Bosnian Croat Republic of Hercegovina reports on Thursday that Moslems have continued attacks on all Croat positions and villages in the area of Gornji Vakuf.

Moslem-controlled Sarajevo radio, however, says that Bosnian Croat forces (HVO) and regular Croatian Army troops provoked the fighting by launching a joint attack on the town. Moslem sources claim that Croats are using guided missiles and that the operation in the area is commanded by HVO Commander General Slobodan Praljak personally.

Since last April, Croats and Moslems, former allies in the war against Bosnian Serbs, engaged in heavy fighting over territories with mixed population in central Bosnia and the valley of the River Neretva in Herzegovina.

Serb, Croat Military Representatives Meet in Pale
LD0209204393 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1846 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Pale, 2 Sep (TANJUG)—Military representatives of the republic of Srpska's army [VRS] and the Croatian Defense Council [HVO], headed by chiefs of staff Lieutenant Colonel General Manojlo Milovanovic and Brigadier General Milivoj Petkovic, met in Pale this afternoon.

TANJUG's correspondent was told that the meeting took place at the request of the Croat side.

The talks centered on the situation in central Bosnia and the request by the army of the Croat republic of Hercegovina that the Serb side facilitate the evacuation of civilians and wounded from places besieged by Muslim forces.

The VRS demands concern the cessation of HVO attacks in the regions of Posavina and Herzegovina, respect for the cease-fire, and the maintaining of the truce along the lines separating the warring sides.

Delic, Briquemont Discuss Implementation of Cease-Fire

AU0209155593 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 2 Sept 93

[Text] We have received a statement from the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army Press Center on today's meeting between Rasim Delic, the commander of the General Staff of the Supreme Command of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army, and General Francis Briquemont, commander of the UN Protection Forces [UNPROFOR] for Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The topics discussed were the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the (?recently) signed cease-fire agreement, dated 30 July. Other topics discussed were the mechanisms for strengthening the agreement on the cessation of hostilities in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the situation on Mount Igman, in Mostar, and the evacuation of

wounded by Bosnia-Herzegovina Army and Croatian Defense Council [HVO] helicopters.

Commander Delic stressed that the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army would observe absolutely all the points in the agreement on the cessation of all combat activity from 30 July of this year. The units of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army that are on the ground have clear orders, and we except the same from the HVO and the Serbian aggressor. The (?current situation) is connected to the course of the negotiations in Geneva. Our state delegation issued completely clear instructions for the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army last night. The instructions stress that the cease-fire must be unconditionally observed.

As for the situation on Mt. Igman, General Briquemont stressed that the UN forces would continue their mission on Mt. Igman and Mt. Bjelasnica. In the course of the day, General Briquemont will contact the UN forces deployed on Mt. Igman, so that a further strengthening of all the elements in the agreement may be carried out. General Briquemont described his impressions of yesterday's tour of Mostar. He stressed that he was satisfied with his visit and with the talks he had with local commanders. In the wider region of Mostar, the cease-fire agreement had to be [words indistinct] in cooperation with the command of the UN Spanish Battalion. The situation should stabilize in the next few days.

General Briquemont issued orders to the Spanish Battalion in which he defined the [words indistinct] of the United Nations that are deployed in the area. Details were agreed on the evacuation of the wounded members of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army and the HVO from central Bosnia, so that the beginning of the operation is expected tomorrow. This operation was agreed two days ago between Commanders Delic and Petkovic.

The employment of civilians as a live shield by the HVO was also discussed, particularly during combat operations in Mostar. The free passage for convoys carrying humanitarian aid was another topic. Commander Delic stressed his readiness to cooperate fully in this respect. However, the HVO representatives have to secure the same conditions on the territory that is under their control. This is stated in the statement by the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army Press Center.

Prozor Authorities Protest Expulsion of Muslims

AU0209203693 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 2 Sept 93

[Text] The War Presidency of Prozor Municipality today issued a statement for the public that states the following:

The aggression of the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] and the Croatian Army against the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army and the population of Prozor Municipality, carried out on 23 October 1992, marked the beginning of the implementation of the policy of the so-called Croatian community of Herceg-Bosna, supported by the

Republic of Croatia, and the military conquering of—as they say—historical regions of the Croatian people.

The pinnacle of this fascist policy of the so-called Croatian community of Herceg-Bosna in the Prozor municipality expressed itself in the imprisonment of Muslims in three concentration camps by the Prozor HVO. The Muslims were able to live there until 28 August 1993, when total ethnic cleansing of the entire occupied territory of the Prozor municipality was initiated by the HVO. They expelled the Muslims into areas under the control of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army.

The area of the Prozor Municipality, formerly populated by around 8,000 Muslims, that is, 37-percent of Muslims in Prozor Municipality. [sentence as heard] The town of Prozor itself had an 80-percent Muslim population. Today around 300 Muslims remain, while the majority of those expelled and others were assigned labor duties by the Prozor HVO. In Prozor Municipality, the majority of men of military age, ranging from 16 to 60 year olds, are interned in camps run by the HVO. The camps stretch from Prozor, Dretelj, Rodoc, to Ljubusko.

We sharply protest against these actions by the self-styled Herceg-Bosna, and we demand that all domestic and international institutions are informed. We demand help for the salvation of the expelled Muslims. This is stated in the statement issued by the War Presidency of the Prozor municipality.

Herzegovina SDA Warns Croatia Against Claiming Neum

AU0209202593 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 2 Sept 93

[Text] The regional council of the Party of Democratic Action [SDA], the municipal council for Mostar, today issued the following statement for the public:

The latest public statements by Croatian President Franjo Tudjman represent one of the harshest attacks and an open aspiration of the current policy of the neighboring state against the sovereign and internationally recognized Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. We are publicly reacting to the way in which the President of the Republic of Croatia is proclaiming that the territory of Neum will be Croatian territory. This is stressed in the statement by the regional council of the SDA for Herzegovina, municipal council for Mostar.

President Tudjman stressed in his statement that one should know a bit of history in order to realize that this historical Croatian territory had actually been given to the Turks by the Dubrovnik Republic in order to protect itself from attacks by Serbia, and which Yugoslavia later adopted as part of the Bosnia-Herzegovina coastline. Of course, the historical facts are just as true as the fact that the historical map of Bosnia, and Croatia, has been altered several times, since a much greater part of Croatia's present territory belonged to Bosnia. By the

same token it is true that today, Croatia has a great part of western Istria, which had never belonged to it.

All this is part of history, but Mr. Tudjman only objects to historical injustice in the case of Neum. However, today these are internationally recognized borders of the state of Bosnia-Herzegovina, just like in the case of Croatia. Therefore, the attempts of Croatian policy to proclaim Neum to be a part of its territory are surprising. This harshly alters the outside borders of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Perhaps they think that direct meddling in the internal affairs of Bosnia-Herzegovina through their branch office which they call Herceg-Bosna is not enough. Herceg-Bosna was created in Zagreb, and Zagreb is aiding it wholeheartedly. It is openly militarily engaged in slicing its neighbor. After the world made it clear that there would be no altering of territory, the Croatian political leadership decided to try and snatch Neum and proclaim it to be an integral part of the Croatian Republic.

From the dirty, imperialistic, and fascist policy of Zagreb, the SDA for Herzegovina and Mostar—as the legitimate representative of the Mostar and Herzegovina Muslims—announces that Neum, Mostar, and all other places in Bosnia-Herzegovina, which Zagreb and Grude claim are Croatian, will always remain in Bosnia-Herzegovina, just as they are now. This can only be places where Bosnian Croats live in greater or smaller percentages, but they cannot and will never be Croatian places.

UN Warns Fighting May Spill Over Into Other Countries

AU0209143293 Paris AFP in English 1347 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Zagreb, Sept 2 (AFP)—The failure of the Geneva peace talks on Bosnia-Herzegovina could lead to a fresh upsurge in fighting and cause the conflict to spill over into other countries, a top UN official warned Thursday [2 September].

Cedric Thornberry, civilian affairs director for the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR), told a press conference that he hoped that "the term breakdown is an exaggeration" and that peace talks would resume after a "temporary adjournment for thought and concentration."

"If there is in fact a breakdown, then I think it would have a lot of serious consequences," Thornberry said. "First of all we would have to be concerned about a new round of fighting."

"The potential for new horrors in central and southern Bosnia is very real," he said, adding that since May the largely Muslim Bosnian army had been "showing a new energy and capability."

UNPROFOR believed the peace plan under discussion in Geneva was "the least bad solution to the situation," he said.

If there was an escalation of fighting, the war could spill over Bosnia's borders, Thornberry warned.

"If the parties decided they were going to settle the situation by force, the danger of one or more of the major states in the region becoming almost inevitably engaged has to be looked at."

Thornberry said that UN forces had reported a buildup of Croatian Army troops in southern and central Bosnia in the past two or three months although the government in Zagreb has denied this consistently.

Health Body Issues Report on Situation in Mostar

AU0309104993 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 3 Sep 93

[Text] There are over 65,000 residents of the territory of the Mostar commune controlled by the legal authorities of Bosnia-Herzegovina, of whom one half are refugees.

[words indistinct] that the aggression by the Croatian Defense Council had started [words indistinct] 310 people have been killed on the left bank of the Neretva River in Mostar commune. At the same time, more than 500 people are either reported missing or have been killed on the right bank of the Neretva River, controlled by the Croatian Defense Council. This is reported by the Republic Health [word indistinct].

Some 10,000 persons went through concentration camps, mainly Muslims. Hundreds of thousands of Mostar residents have been expelled from their homes. An improvised hospital on the left bank of the Neretva River has treated 2,660 wounded persons [words indistinct] (?651) patients. Over 2,500 (?cases) of infectious diseases have been registered in this area.

Mostar urgently needs doctors, nurses, and (?technicians) [words indistinct].

RSK Premier Says No Progress in Cease-Fire Negotiations

LD0209223793 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2031 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Knin, September 2 (TANJUG)—Prime Minister of the Serb republic of Krajina (R.S.K.) Djordje Bjegovic assessed that no significant progress had been made in the negotiations on cease-fire between the former Yugoslav Republic of Croatia and the R.S.K. and noted that the Croatian side was intent on dragging out the talks in all manner possible.

He said Thursday in Knin following the talk with deputies of the co-chairmen of the peace conference on former Yugoslavia Geerd Arens and Knut Vollebaek that cease-fire should be established and forces separated so as to create a minimum of trust between the conflicting sides.

No one can deny the right to self-determination to the Serb people, as was the case when an attempt has been made by way of the U.N. Security Council resolutions which ran counter to the Vance plan, Bjegovic set out.

The R.S.K. was formed by the Serbs in the former administrative borders of Croatia where they make up the majority in response to Croatia's secession from the former Yugoslav Federation.

Under the Vance plan, the territory of the R.S.K. was placed under U.N. protection (UNPA) until a political settlement was found.

Arens told newsmen he was hopeful that the opposing sides would sit at the negotiating table despite large differences so a cease-fire could be effected, and subsequently the implementation of the U.N. Security Council Resolution No. 802.

The Resolution No. 802 orders Croatia to withdraw its troops from the R.S.K. territories it occupied in the aggression on January 22 this year.

Croatia is bound by the agreement concluded in Erdut on July 15 to withdraw troops from the territories it occupied, but has not done so to this day, while Croatian President Franjo Tudjman has on several occasions stated that the Erdut Agreement was not valid for Croatia.

Serbian Forces Reportedly Attack Gospic Area

LD0209215993 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in English 2105 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Serbian forces attacked Croatian defense positions with small arms and machinegun fire from Novi Licki Osik just after 2000 this evening. Stari Licki Osik was hit by 15 mortar and tank shells. Due to safety reasons, the road—Gospic-Stari Licki Osik-Perusic—was closed at 2000. The general warning in Gospic and the surrounding area has been in effect for 30 days.

Serb Attack on Defense Positions in Zadar Reported

LD0309082993 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in English 0805 GMT 3 Sep 93

[Text] After a relatively peaceful night, Serbs in the Zadar area began attacking Croatian defense positions at around 0630 this morning, firing 15 mortar shells from Kasic. Besides the usual shooting there was occasional artillery fire during the night. Traffic is reported to be flowing freely across the Maslenica pontoon bridge.

UNPROFOR Responds To Call For Dismissal of Baudot

AU0209190493 Paris AFP in English 1846 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Zagreb, Sept 2 (AFP)—The UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR) replied Thursday to Croatian calls for a French UN general to be removed from his post by stressing appointments were the province of UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali.

Croatia called Wednesday for the immediate recall of General Bernard Baudot, commander of UN Protection Force troops (UNPROFOR) in southern Croatia, accusing him of partiality in a letter to General Jean Cot, the head of all UN forces in former Yugoslavia.

UNPROFOR spokeswoman Shannon Boyd told journalists Thursday that all feedback from countries hosting UN operations—particularly from high-ranking officials—was taken into "very careful consideration."

Boyd said UNPROFOR appointments were made under the auspices of Cot in conjunction with Thorvald Stoltenberg, Butrus-Ghali's special representative in the former Yugoslavia and the co-chairman of the Geneva peace conference.

But she stressed that allocating postings within UNPROFOR was "ultimately the decision of the secretary general."

The written Croat government request charged Baudot with having been "partial" and of having "given offense to Croatia," the official Croat news agency HINA reported.

Vladimir Seks, deputy prime minister responsible for relations with UNPROFOR, also alleged that Baudot had prepared reports that were "not truthful."

Danube Blockade Effect on Osijek Port

93BA1411A Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 13 Aug 93 p 5

[Article by Mirko Sajler: "Osijek Port Under 'River Blockade'"]

[Text] *It depends to a great extent on lifting the blockade of the shipping route whether Croatia will keep the status*

of a Danube basin country and whether the Adriatic ports and the Croatian Railroads will have enough work.

Osijek—The "Transit" port on the Drava near Osijek is under a "river blockade" imposed by the Serbian aggressor. Danube ships that sail under the Croatian flag and the flags of European countries no longer sail into it, and so the port's employees are barely making ends meet, primarily reloading the gravel and sand needed by the Slavonian construction industry. While waiting for better days and the lifting of the blockade of the international shipping route, the people at Transit have not been idle. The damage that the port suffered during the Serbian aggressor's artillery shelling has been repaired. Thanks to this, as early as tomorrow, when river traffic is to be restored on the occupied 12 kilometers of the Drava (from Osijek to the entrance to the Danube), that big port could once again be part of the integral traffic in goods in the Adriatic-Danube basin transit corridor.

By joining European transit flows, Transit developed into the biggest river port on the territory of the former Yugoslavia. If one notes that the Osijek port's reloading capacity amounted to 5 million metric tons a year, then it is clear that that port ranked among the biggest ones in Croatia, including the ones on the sea.

"A lot of that was destroyed for us; the enemy projectiles caused us direct damage amounting to 6.5 million German marks. One of our floating cranes was sunk, but of the four on the operational bank we have already repaired three. As far as the facilities and the warehouse are concerned, we could work tomorrow if the blockade on the Osijek-Aljmas international shipping route, 12 kilometers long, were lifted. We would only have to check the status of the shipping route on the Drava, because it has not been sailed for two years now. I think that we would have to regulate it, since sand banks have appeared at critical spots. For the time being, we are living on the local reloading of goods, in which construction materials are predominant. We had work for our steel mills in Sisak and Zadar, the Slovene steel mill in Jasenice, and then we were reloading Hungarian sugar

beets imported for the sugar factories in Osijek, and so forth," we were told by Ante Simic, deputy director of the Transit Port.

For that Osijek enterprise, the damage brought by the war did not occur only at the location at Nemetin. That parent port also built a new port on the Danube near Bogojevo on the Vojvodina side. At one time almost 2 million marks were invested in it. Now it is being used by an unknown owner. During that time, 50,000 tons of iron ore imported from Brazil for the Austrian state steel mills in Linz have been lying in the Osijek port. Now it is not known how to deliver that order to the customer. Until that question is resolved, the Brazilian iron ore will be held up at the Osijek port. At the same time, the big business that the Transit Port had with Austria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Germany, and Hungary has been interrupted; it used to reload large amounts of goods that left those countries for our Adriatic ports or moved from them toward the Danube basin and the Mediterranean.

An attempt through UNPROFOR [UN Protection Forces] to guarantee shipping and make it possible for our maritime and river ports to perform services for Central European countries was in vain.

The aggressor who is holding the international shipping route did not even want to talk about it. For that reason, the already established sea-railroad-river combined transportation has been forcibly cut off, which threatens to turn the Adriatic into a blind alley for the European transit of goods.

The people in Osijek are therefore demanding that the Osijek Transit port in Nemetin and the Klisa airport not be forgotten in trying to resolve lifting the blockade of transportation routes, since they are no less important than the Maslenica bridge, the airport in Zemunik near Zadar, the Zagreb-Zupanja highway, and other road, railroad, and air transportation routes. This is because it is precisely the lifting of the blockade of the Drava-Danube international shipping route that will determine to a great extent whether Croatia will keep the status of a Danube basin country, and whether our Adriatic ports and the Croatian Railroads will have enough work for their shipping and reloading facilities.

Federal

Weekly Says 90 Percent of Yugoslavs on Poverty Line
LD0309132693 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1214
GMT 3 Sep 93

["Pool" item]

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 3 (TANJUG)—Nearly 90 percent of Yugoslavs are nearing the poverty line, the Belgrade weekly NIN on Friday [3 September] quotes a report of the Yugoslav Red Cross.

"The basic conditions for the health of the population are adequate nutrition, regular water supply, adequate sanitary and housing facilities, social security and emotional stability, equal possibilities for all and political and general support to health care. All these conditions have been seriously jeopardized," said Dr. Viktorija Cucic, professor of social medicine at the Belgrade Medical School.

The U.N. Security Council 16 months ago imposed comprehensive sanctions against Yugoslavia over its alleged involvement in the war between local Moslems, Serbs and Croats in neighbouring Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Dr. Cucic said that the Yugoslav population was exposed to two kinds of pressure—one caused by economic recession and the other by psychosocial factors, including fear of war and an overall crisis in the system of values.

The health of children, pregnant women and the aged is worst affected.

Over the past two years, an increase in the mortality rate of middle-aged people has been noticed.

Dr. Cucic said the main reasons for this were their inability to get adequate medical treatment, erroneous diagnoses, and infections which were not fatal before.

Over 50 percent of the patients get inadequate treatment or no treatment at all, she said.

Since the introduction of the sanctions, Yugoslav hospitals have been faced with a dramatic shortage of medicines and equipment, including vaccines and serums, problems in maintaining hygiene, and a shortage of heating fuel.

Commentary Views Support for Perisic, Personnel Changes

AU0209163593 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian
28 Aug 93 p 3

[Commentary by Ljubodar Stojanovic: "A Certain Sympathy"]

[Text] The Supreme Defense Council decisions on the cadre renewal of the Yugoslav Army have been awaited as harbingers of storm and great personal dissatisfactions. However,

nothing dramatic has happened. The changes were inevitable and one should not seek any "omens" in the fact that somebody has been "written off." There will certainly be some dissatisfaction and this is normal, but, compared with earlier massive departures of large groups of generals, we are now witnessing something entirely new. In our judgment, a highly civilized approach is being taken to the entire business and the corresponding behavior of nearly all who have taken part in it.

It is difficult to say at this moment whether the departure of dozens of important men from the Army's leadership marks the end of a chapter in history. History simply does not end with departures, but the generals whose active service has ceased definitely left a significant imprint, as the list contains a great number of creative people, who, when all is said and done, have nothing to reproach themselves for. Each of their fates is, therefore, a separate story, and the departure of these men definitely cannot be viewed as a package deal, but rather by evaluating what each of them personally did or did not do.

The world and the Yugoslav public are naturally more tuned in to what is to come and General Momcilo Perisic is in the focus of general interest because of this. There are definitely several reasons for this that are interwoven in the current events surrounding the Yugoslav Army. Media attention has been reduced to a peculiar combination of Perisic's military charisma and future expectations in the bitter military reality.

Putting an end to journalistic poetics or pathos in recalling the still fresh memories of war, General Perisic convincingly dispelled certain accusations about allegedly destructive aspects of his biography. He listed all the installations in Mostar that he had targeted, explaining that is a military imperative in war: Any installation, regardless of its original purpose, ceases to have this function if an army starts shooting from it. This applies to Zadar, too. These are the facts, and everything else is myth or part of rewritten history. In reality, the general still remembers the numbers of people and types of weapons in the improvised strongholds that he had to target.

Let us return to reality and to what now finally represents a good omen regarding the Yugoslav Army. The genuine officer chivalry of some generals, who until a few days ago were considered serious candidates for the chief of the General Staff, is also evidence that the Supreme Command of the Army has performed its extremely delicate cadre task very well. Everybody emphasizes that General Perisic is the best solution for everyone, even those whose active service is coming to an end, i.e. party leaders, unit commanders, and Army officers. What was needed to take on one of the most difficult posts—their support—has been achieved at the very beginning. The support is general, but this means that the actual work is yet to begin. Namely, there is still no notion of the Balkans becoming peaceful soon. Even if the Bosnian fire is finally being extinguished, there are already

ominous sings of new ones breaking out that would definitely require the engagement of considerable Army power. Cadre modernization is under way, but for technological modernization, apart from what can be achieved through domestic expertise, there are no funds or they are depressingly scanty. The budget readjustment easily passed through the Federal Parliament, but this emanates merely from the desire for the preservation of life and the suppression of dangerous social change.

There is no housing, while even the top salaries in the Army barely cover the bare essentials in the consumer's basket. Apart from all this, though, there is definitely ground for optimism, at least in the sense that a sensitive profession is being revitalized. One must believe in the new spirit of the Army, the greater influence of fresh ideas, and the definitive departure of those conservative structures that feared any sort of change. Finally, a consensus exists at all levels of representative structures in this country that, objectively speaking, the Army must share the fate of an impoverished country, but that it must no longer be abandoned and left in poverty. It seems that the fashion of antimilitaristic nihilism is a thing of the past, and that the venom in the public attitude toward the Army and its cadres is diminishing.

The latest critically charged remarks have mostly been based on the serious analyses of the situation instead of personal prejudice.

Finally, this is an atmosphere in which some things can continue but many things are yet to be started. The rejection of everything that was positive is equally dangerous as the continuation of the ideological history of the former Yugoslav Peoples Army. The best people should be chosen, primarily those who can do the job. We believe that a major and perfectly good step has been made in this sense.

This is how we should perceive the prevailing support enjoyed by the newly appointed commander of the General Staff and his mandate for the formation of an entirely new leadership team, whose value is primarily his knowledge and creative mind. The considerable experience of the generation that is leaving, regardless of what this experience might be, should be respected, because without it we would not know how to proceed in the safest possible way or which mistakes proved crucial in the past. This is perfectly sufficient for the first step, as any subsequent step in the next few months will be fateful, in a way.

Speculations on Simic Replacing Jovanovic

93BA13941 Belgrade *POLITIKA* in Serbo-Croatian
14 Aug 93 p 8

[Article by M. Pesic: "Milosevic's Adviser at the Diplomatic Helm?"]

[Text] Will Zeljko Simic, M.A., until recently federal prime minister, take over the helm of Yugoslav diplomacy? According to the news agency BNA Ticker, there

is every prospect from the circles close to the cabinet of Dr. Radoje Kontic that Milosevic's erstwhile adviser will replace Vladislav Jovanovic.

This is the second time in a relatively short interval that there has been whispering in public about the possibility of Simic becoming foreign minister of the FRY (Federal Republic of Yugoslavia). A few days after he became Kontic's deputy (on 6 July), Zeljko Simic himself denied rumors that he would replace Vladislav Jovanovic.

"That is nonsense. It is beneath my dignity to comment on such stories. Vladislav Jovanovic is the federal foreign minister and will remain so," Simic recently told reporters in the lobby of the Federal Assembly when they asked him whether he would become the top man in Yugoslav diplomacy?

Yesterday, we were unable to obtain confirmation or denial from the deputy prime minister about the new "rumors," because he is traveling, so we were told by Simic's secretary.

We did obtain indirect confirmation from the incumbent party that there is some truth in the speculation. That is, according to one unofficial statement from leaders of the SPS (Socialist Party of Serbia), Zeljko Simic could actually be chosen soon to be foreign minister.

According to certain other indications, Slobodan Milosevic long ago intended this very important, and at this point sensitive, position for Simic, but was waiting for a suitable moment for that. That is, well-informed people say that Simic needs diplomatic training, and his function as coordinator of commissions taking part in the Geneva negotiations are the best way of giving him that.

In answer to the remark that he came to the government to help in removing the sanctions, Simic himself said on one occasion that he would not attribute such importance to himself. In any case, the emergence of a close adviser to the president of Serbia at the focus of diplomatic-political negotiations has been taken by many as a very refreshing sign, but also a surprise. Among the collaborators of the federal prime minister, what Zeljko Simic says is heeded with particular attention, we have learned unofficially from circles close to the Chamber of the Federation. Nor have foreign negotiators failed to comment on the emergence of a new figure in Yugoslav diplomacy. The sympathies of Western diplomats, according to certain unofficial reports, are more on the side of Simic than Jovanovic.

Is this man with a master's degree in sociology and a doctoral candidate the strongest man in the federal government? According to many, he is, because they say that this is not only a person very close to the president of Serbia, but also a notable intellectual of the younger generation in Serbia.

Zeljko Simic was born 21 May 1958 in Belgrade. He was an editor of *STUDENT* and editor in chief of the journal *VIDICI*. He has written three books: *Kultura i politika*—

stvaralastvo pod okriljem ideologije (Culture and Politics—Creativity Under the Sponsorship of Ideology), Iza zovi osporavanja—moralne zamke (samo) zaborava (Challenges To Be Contested—The Moral Trap of (Self-)Forgetting), and Sumrak dijaloga (The Twilight of Dialogue). He has also published more than 100 essays, studies, and articles in domestic and foreign journals.

In the first convocation of the FRY parliament, he was a deputy in the Citizens Chamber and a member of the Foreign Relations Committee. As an adviser to Milosevic, he was assigned to contacts with journalists because of his exceptional knowledge of French and English.

There is no doubt whatsoever that this is a new star in the political sky of the incumbent party. Simic is one of the rare government officials who does not avoid journalists, and even earlier he had nurtured relations with certain representatives of the democratic opposition.

In a situation when neither government is getting a good press, because of tardiness in adopting the stabilization program, well-informed sources say that the political career of Zeljko Simic will be on the rise for a long time yet.

Ljubljana-Belgrade Do Business Despite Embargo

93BA1412C Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian
18 Aug 93 p 8

[Article by Ivica Nasic: "Real Estate of Serbian Companies in Slovenia: Who Is Paying Rent to Serbia?"]

[Text] *Slovene companies that are paying rent for office space whose owners, such as JAT (Yugoslav Air Transport), are under embargo are under investigation by the Slovene market inspector, but the question of Slovene goods in Belgrade store windows is also being raised.*

Ljubljana—You have to scratch at the surface to get to the bottom of things. This popular expression has been applied lately by the republican market inspector of Slovenia, Adolf Hilmayer, at least in its initial stage. The protector of the country's financial and similar interests paid an unannounced visit to a representative office building in central Ljubljana where Belgrade's formerly omnipotent JAT has offices and of which it is still the owner (until the so-called succession, or application of war reparations, or perhaps some third option that will emerge after the war). He writes in the report on the visit that a situation was encountered there that, if one so desired, could be directly linked to the violation of one of the well-known UN resolutions, the one that concerns economic sanctions against the "FRY" [Federal Republic of Yugoslavia]: JAT's property in Ljubljana has long since been occupied by new tenants—Yatras, Heniofarm, Studio E, and Putnik.

Secret of Petty Cash

Under a special contract, the four Slovene companies are obligated to pay an average of 6,245 German marks [DM] a month for the leased structure, which is no small amount of

money given the fact that this whole arrangement has been postdated. Furthermore, Adolf Hilmayer's "professional curiosity" uncovered other things, for example the fact that JAT's authorized representative in Ljubljana, Aleksandar Sasa Mrvaljevic, had at his "disposal" exactly DM19,000, \$4,600, and nearly 83,000 tolar in a sort of petty cash fund. Mrvaljevic explained the existence of this money as the need for ongoing maintenance of his employer's building, but he was unable to present appropriate documentation. One could only guess whether the missing invoices are at the Belgrade accounting department of the once-omnipresent Yugoslav airline or whether they in fact do not exist. Most of all, the only conclusion left to the inspector of the Republic of Slovenia is that the war and its consequences are the reason why he will be unable to resolve this entire "affair," although he does still hope that he will bring it to a close in accordance with existing Slovene laws which classify violators of the UN embargo as delinquents.

Still More of This

The whole story of JAT and the renters of its Ljubljana office space could be broadened, if Adolf Hilmayer sticks to his guns. To begin with, another company under investigation by the inspector is Marketing, which is using the office space of RTB [Belgrade Radio and Television] Society of the Serb Community, at monthly rent of DM2,000. The guardian of the budget of Ljubljana and the Republic of Slovenia thinks that that company too could find itself charged with a serious economic offense.

In addition to the above, there are also "audible reflections" that come down to talk of "small and big fish." It is a public secret that no one has yet "named" a single Slovene company whose products, as the citizens of Belgrade and those who visit them know, are available in the capital of the "FRY" in conspicuous quantities. Despite the embargo, it is possible to buy cosmetics, drugs, and luxury items in Belgrade stores, and even "Alpine milk" bearing the label "Made in Slovenia." There is a good deal else that could be considered a violation of the best-known UN resolution, but the republican market inspector has stopped where he is. The only hope is that all of this does not stop at "scratching at the surface."

Former KOS Chief on Exoneration

93BA1410B Belgrade NIN in Serbo-Croatian 13 Aug 93
p 21

[Article by T. Dzadzic: "Vasiljevic Acquitted"]

[Text] A final decision of the Supreme Military Court in Belgrade, dated 6 August 1993, has finally rejected the appeal of the military prosecutor and freed General Aleksandar Vasiljevic, former chief of the Security Administration of the SSNO [Federal Secretariat for National Defense] (head of KOS [counterintelligence]), of all charges.

As is well-known, Gen. Vasiljevic had been charged with serious crimes—from taking bribes and terrorist acts in Slovenia and Croatia to unscrupulous work in his official capacity and organizing the secret operation known as Opera. He was also accused of having allegedly divulged military secrets published in a feature article which NIN has been publishing for months.

Justice, then, has triumphed, and Gen. Vasiljevic is again a free man with no blemishes on his career.

Aleksandar Vasiljevic told NIN in connection with the verdict freeing him:

"The full truth has finally come to light, thereby restoring confidence in military justice, in which there are obviously people who respect the law and enforce it consistently. I hope that in the upcoming trial of the other participants in the so-called Opera affair the truth also comes to light and the other defendants are also acquitted because they are innocent.

"I hope that all the insinuations and falsehoods uttered and written about Gen. Tumanov, my assistant who was accused of almost the same acts as I was, will finally be cleared up. Then that man, who is now in Skopje, can freely return to his family in Belgrade and continue to live in the country he loves—in Yugoslavia.

"I would also like to thank all the people who believed in me in the most difficult days of my life, those officers who did not believe the slander that was spoken and written about me; I must also thank the editors of NIN, who provided me moral support at a time when I was in prison, as well as to my defense attorneys Isakije Stanic and Jovan Buturovic, because beyond their professional relationship, they had confidence in me and made it possible for me to get through all this."

Serbia

Serbian Radical Party To Form Shadow Cabinet

LD0209203593 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1941 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 2 (TANJUG)—Serbian Radical Party leader Vojislav Seselj said on Thursday [2 September] that his party had decided to form a shadow cabinet which would challenge both the federal and the republican governments. The Serbian Radical Party (SRS) is the strongest opposition party in the Yugoslav and Serbian Parliaments.

Speaking at a press conference in Belgrade, Seselj said that the SRS had enough political power to topple the federal and republican governments. As for Montenegro, Yugoslavia's other federal unit, its ruling Democratic Party of Socialists have a firm grip on power and no one can topple it, he said.

The SRS leader also said that the recently adopted economic measures of the three governments (Federal,

Serbian and Montenegrin) contained some positive elements but that the SRS did not believe they would succeed in overcoming the serious economic crisis in the country.

The sanctions which the U.N. Security Council imposed on Yugoslavia for its alleged involvement in the civil war in Bosnia-Herzegovina have virtually crippled the Yugoslav economy. Yugoslavia's monster inflation exceeded 1,880 percent in August alone.

Seselj argued that "all three governments may fall if their budgets are not approved in February next year." As for the SRS shadow cabinet, he said that Tomislav Nikolic was proposed for the post of prime minister.

All details will most probably be announced on Saturday following a meeting of the party's executive board, said Seselj and added that all the portfolios had been distributed except for interior affairs and urban planning.

The SRS leader underscored that the decision to form the SRS shadow government did not exclude the possibility of setting up coalition governments.

Seselj said his party believed that the Federal Constitution should be amended to include democratic elements and exclude the confederal ones. But we need a consensus of political parties on that issue because such a decision would have to be approved by a two-third majority in the federal parliament, he explained.

Macedonia

CSCE Vehicle Explodes in Flames in Skopje

AU0209141293 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] This morning, in Skopje, an official vehicle belonging to the CSCE mission in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia exploded and went up in flames.

It has been revealed that the explosion was caused by a fault in the electric works as the engine was turned on. The mission representative managed to escape from the vehicle on time.

DPP Leaders, U.S. Delegation View Need for Dialogue

AU0309083393 Tirana ATA in English 0840 GMT 2 Sep 93

[Text] Tirana, September 2 (ATA)—A U.S. Congress delegation on foreign policy, headed by the U.S. ambassador in Belgrade, Rudolf Perina, and the American representative in Macedonia, Bob Norman, stopped

over in Skopje on August 31 and, at its own request, met with the DPP [Democratic Prosperity Party] deputy chairman, Sami Ibrahim, and the member of the Central Presidency, Mevlan Tahiri.

The DPP representatives spoke of the discriminating position of the Albanians in Macedonia, of the disillusion in participating in the government, although the Macedonian Government had promised that their demands would be discussed proceeding from equal positions. This, they said, is irritating the Albanian population, which contributed to stability in the republic. "We are in favour of a democratic dialogue," the DPP representatives said. But, they added, dialogue needs two parties, and the Macedonian side has often shown itself deaf-mute.

During the talk, the DPP representatives suggested to the American guests that the Albanians be equal participants in every talk which deals with the Macedonian question, because the world should know that the Albanians in their autochthonous territories make up a very important subject for this republic. Without them, they added, the inter-ethnic problems in Macedonia not only will remain unsolved but will deepen further, which will cause destabilisation of the republic. The Albanians' demands are reasonable, democratic, and realizable because they do not do harm to any Macedonian or other people, they said.

The representatives of the U.S. Congress highly valued the democratic policy of the Albanians of Macedonia. They said it is true that the Albanians with their democratic and peace-loving attitude have contributed to stability in the region.

Kosovo

SPS on Albania's Border Provocations

93BA1394G Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian
14 Aug 93 p 10

[Article by M.B. and M.L.: "Igic: Albania Is Deliberately Carrying Out Provocations on the Border"]

[Text] Pristina, 13 Aug—The incident which occurred on the Yugoslav-Albanian border goes beyond the limits of an ordinary border conflict, because it is not a question of an attempt to illegally cross the border, but of an armed incursion of members of a foreign army into our country. This was a planned and deliberate action of Albanian border guards to eliminate our border guards so that in this way they would divert attention of the foreign public to the alleged problems of the Albanians in Kosovo and Metohija, said Zivorad Igic, chairman of the Provincial Committee of the Socialist Party of Serbia [SPS], at today's press conference.

Albania used this incident to call upon the UN Security Council to "take speedy measures to compel Serbia to cease dangerous military provocations on the border"

and to get international observers placed on the Yugoslav-Albanian border. This is being done, Igic emphasized, by order of some of the Western countries which are promising the Albanians someone else's territory, just as Germany and Italy promised 50 years ago.

Warmongering statements are coming from Albania which do not preclude a "second" battle for Kosovo "after which the Serbs will cry for the next 500 years." In the meantime, a press conference was also held by Dr. Ibrahim Rugova, leader of the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo [DSK], which he began with a serious reproach of the journalists "for following the work of the conference with diminished interest," in which he made particular reference to the reporters of POLITIKA and BORBA. At the same time, he promised that "today he would speak in Serbian, but in future in Albanian, because little is appearing in public from these conferences."

Rugova repeated the demand of Albanian President Sali Berisha that "Kosovo be placed under a UN protectorate or under NATO administration" and welcomed the "intention of the Security Council to return the CSCE mission to Kosovo." After all, Kosovo—Rugova said—"has become a strong international problem, and it is at that level that it has to be solved."

He then supported military intervention of NATO forces against the Serbs in the Srpska republic, because "they do not understand the language of negotiation." And finally, he said that the Serbian authorities are "determined to aggravate the already conflict-ridden relations in Kosovo," citing examples of recent arrests of armed Albanian groups which, he believes, are a "Serbian plant."

Vojvodina

Loans for Surviving to Novi Sad Residents

93BA1394H Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian
14 Aug 93 p 8

[Article by S. Zivkovic: "Loans for Survival to People in Novi Sad"]

[Text] Novi Sad, 13 Aug—According to official statistics, Novi Sad continues to have a convincing lead as the most expensive Yugoslav city. To be sure, even without the help of statistics, with the naked eye, as it is usually put, it is evident that the prices of most articles, food especially, significantly exceed those in our capital. The fact that Novi Sad is surrounded by the country's largest food producers obviously does not have much effect on prices, nor for that matter is this the only absurdity on our chaotic market.

The Executive Committee of the City Assembly therefore started a drive for cheaper food several months ago; its purpose was to provide some help to the neediest categories of the population, but also to the rest of the

public in obtaining food at more favorable prices. It might be said that the campaign has succeeded in part, especially when it comes to helping the neediest fellow citizens, and probably the success would have been greater if all the producers had responded to the appeal of the city government. However, there were cases when certain foodstuffs were sold at a higher price to consumers in other Vojvodina towns in order to get around the agreement on cheaper food in Novi Sad.

Following the recent blows of inflation during the last month and this one, it has turned out, however, that a campaign like that for cheaper food, even if there is a maximum response from the producers, is no longer appropriate to a situation when almost half of the population of Novi Sad is more hungry than full. That is why the city government has decided on a new step which is aimed at helping a broader strata of the population.

The other day, that is, an agreement was signed by the city's Executive Committee, the Novi Sad trade unions, the Association of Pensioners and Persons Disabled by Work Accidents, and several banking organizations—the Bank of Novi Sad, the Bank of Vojvodina, the Panonian Bank, the Business Bank, Jugobanka, and Investbanka, and the Postal Savings Bank has also been invited to take part. The purpose of the agreement is to help the people of Novi Sad to survive somehow the coming fall and winter, and in its character it is for the present unique in the country.

That is, it is supposed to help all the workers, pensioners, and persons disabled by work accidents in Novi Sad to

obtain loans under equal conditions for fuel, food for canning, and school supplies for the dinar equivalent of 300 German marks and at the official rate set by the National Bank of Yugoslavia as of the day when the loan is approved. The interest is fixed and amounts to 35 percent per month, and the repayment term is 10 months.

By agreement among the signatories, applications for loans are filed through trade union organizations, while pensioners and persons disabled by job accidents will do this through the bank in which they receive their benefits. In order to avoid misappropriation, that is, to avoid the funds approved being used for other purposes, it is foreseen that the application must be accompanied by an invoice for the goods to be obtained in this way.

The agreement also envisages that the use of these loans can begin next week, and the only limit in approval of the actual amount will be the level of the worker's income or the benefit of the pensioner or disabled person. For the former, the monthly installment may be as high as one-third of his salary, but in the latter category it may go up to one-half of the amount of the old-age pension or disability benefit.

There is no doubt that this form of assistance, if it is consistently adhered to, will greatly help the people of Novi Sad to survive under the conditions of hyperinflation and chaos on the market. If the agreement is departed from, not only will social resentment be inevitable, that would also signify a serious compromise of its signatories, but also the definitive loss of confidence in the mechanisms of the government.